

MAIDEN

This packet contains teaching materials for the Maiden level of the Forward Steps in Girls' Missionary Auxiliary. These lessons correlate with the Maiden section of *My Special Place*, the lesson book for the girls, and with the Maiden lesson plans in the *GMA Counselor's Guidebook*.

On the sheets in this packet you will find teaching guides for nine lessons and the visuals to complement them. At the heart of this step are four lessons on the way of salvation — "I Am a Sinner," "Dana's Discovery," "My Need of the Gospel," and "What I Must Do to Be Saved." To supplement those lessons on salvation, additional materials include:

1. An introductory lesson ("GMA — My Special Place") to teach the GMA Watchword, Aim, Allegiance, and Star Ideals
2. Three lessons ("Sweeter Than Honey," "God's Messengers," and "The Prophet Messengers") to teach as you assist girls in memorizing the list of books of the Old Testament. These lessons were first printed separately in "An Insert for GMA Visual Packets."
3. An introduction to missions ("You Can Be a Missionary Too")

The teaching guides in this packet provide step-by-step instructions about when and how to use each visual. You can find further instructions for teaching these lessons in Guide Five of *Counselor's Guidebook*.

You can adapt the drawings in this packet in a number of ways:

1. You can display them as they are. They are printed in a size that is large enough for small classes

without enlargement. You will, however, probably want to add color to the pictures with crayons, pens, pencils, or markers.

2. You can copy them in enlarged form. In some cases especially, you may want to redraw the pictures on poster board.
3. You can make them into transparencies for an overhead projector. Most churches have photocopiers which will copy the art onto transparencies. If your church does not have a photocopier an office-machine store or school-supply store can make the transparencies for you in only a few seconds for a small charge.
4. You can adapt them for the flannel board. Specific instructions are given with some lessons for preparing the art for flannelgraph presentation. The same ideas can be applied to all of the visuals.

Before you shuffle the pages of this packet or cut out visuals, please familiarize yourself with the Maiden lessons in *My Special Place* and *Counselor's Guidebook*. Compare the material in this packet to the contents of those publications until you understand how they correlate. Then as you remove sheets from this packet and cut apart the visuals, be sure to label each piece as needed. Keep all visuals stored in labeled envelopes or clear zip-shut plastic bags so you can reuse them later. Keep the teaching guides in a GMA binder (if you choose, in the same binder with your *Counselor's Guidebook*).

As you get familiar with this packet, you will notice that all page numbers and all labels on items begin with the letter M. This indicates that the page or item is a part of the Maiden packet; packets for other steps have their unique codes.

GMA — My Special Place

by Nicki Wheat

What is GMA? Yes, it is Girls' Missionary Auxiliary; but where does it start? The GMA is a part of the church and is sponsored by the Women's Missionary Auxiliary. It is for girls in grades 4 - 12. The GMA's main interest is missions. By studying in GMA, we learn the need of the world for Jesus. We learn the way of salvation and how our bodies can be used to help others.

(Show Picture M-A.)

GMA — Your special place of service. It is your auxiliary. We as counselors are here only to guide you. We know that you will be blessed if you apply this study to your own lives.

WATCHWORD

Our Watchword says, *"Now then we are ambassadors for Christ"* (II Corinthians 5:20). If we are saved, we can truly say this. We are to represent Christ in all that we do.

Missions begins at home. It must start in ourselves — how we act toward our parents, brothers and sisters, church, friends, and even our counselors. Girls, we are to show respect and love toward others.

(Show Picture M-B.)

As we look at this picture, remember the GMA is our special place of service. The seed has to be planted first; then God allows it to grow. How about you? Do you know Christ? Is He living within your life? Where is your special place?

AIM

Let's read the Aim. *"To be ever alert to the conditions which exist throughout the world, to keep our minds at all times centered on our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; to remember always to keep our bodies as temples of God, unspotted from the world; to cast selfish desires out of our hearts, and to help our Missionary Baptist churches to carry the gospel to every corner of the world."*

(Show Picture M-C.)

Our Aim is to be used in our daily lives. As we look at it, what does it mean? ***"To be alert to the conditions of the world . . ."*** This tells us that we are not to be indifferent to the things around us, but we are to remember that there are many people who are walking in sin. They are walking with their spiritual eyes closed. The only hope for them is our Lord Jesus. We must awake to the needs of those without Jesus.

"To keep our minds at all times centered on our Lord Jesus . . ." When we have our thoughts on Jesus, we don't have time to listen to ugly jokes or have a place for improper words or slang in our minds. We don't have time for the reading of the wrong kind of books or magazines. David prays in Psalm 19:14, *"Let the words of my mouth and the meditation (thoughts) of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD."*

"To remember always to keep our bodies as temples of God, unspotted from the world . . ." We live in a world of temptation and turmoil. In school you are tempted in many ways. There are many activities that are not becoming to a Christian, but if we remember this part of our Aim, we can learn to say no. When we keep our eyes on Jesus, we will want to keep our bodies pure for His service.

"To cast selfish desires out of our hearts . . ." This part teaches us to think of others first. In the GMA program, you will learn to think of others through sharing in many different ways. You will be taught how to be helpful and kind to others. You will be taught how to let Jesus be first, others second, and yourself last. This will make the difference in your life!

(Show Picture M-D.)

"To help our Missionary Baptist churches to carry the gospel to every corner of the world." We read in Mark 16:15, *"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."* We have a responsibility to tell those whom we meet about Jesus. We have a responsibility to give of our love offerings and to pray for the missionaries who tell others of Jesus. Remember, girls, we are to be "Ambassadors for Christ" to the girl next door, that lost one at school, or to whomever we meet. This is something in which we have our own special part.

ALLEGIANCE AND STAR IDEALS

"Realizing that I am an ambassador for Christ and that I have a responsibility to tell a lost world of Jesus, I now assent my allegiance to Jesus Christ, to His church and her activities, knowing that with the Lord's help, I shall ever seek to:

- 1. Dwell in the realm of prayer,*
- 2. Dwell in the realm of Bible study,*
- 3. Dwell in the realm of faith,*
- 4. Dwell in the realm of love,*
- 5. Dwell in the realm of service."*

(Show Picture M-E.)

An ambassador for Christ is one who can tell the world about Jesus. Look at the picture! We see Christ at the top. As we say the Allegiance, it becomes our pledge. Remember the word *allegiance* means loyalty, devotion, and respect. Christ is at the top of our lives. He deserves our loyalty. His church and the activities of His church should come next in our thoughts, prayers, talents, and time. Christ bought us with His blood, so He should have first place in our lives. He won't make us obey Him; but when we give ourselves to Him, He will guide us in everything.

If a girl is not saved, she can't say the Allegiance because her eyes are blinded to the things Christ can do for her. We cannot tell someone about something we don't know ourselves.

The Star Ideals are a symbol of the GMA. The points stand for ideals we strive to achieve in our everyday walk of life. As we try to achieve these points, we will be doing some of the things Christ commanded us to do. In thinking of the shining stars, we think of the words of Jesus in Matthew 5:16, *"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."*

(Show Picture M-F.)

Let's look closer at the points:

PRAYER: Prayer is simply talking with God and taking the time to let Him talk with us. In order for God to hear our prayers, we must clear away all the things we have done to displease God. The Bible says, *"If I regard (cherish) iniquity (sin) in my heart, the Lord will not hear me"* (Psalm 66:18). We must have clean hearts each time we pray. God says, *"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (evil)"* (1 John 1:9).

We can talk with God anywhere or at any time. We must talk with Him in order to have a happy Christian life. Prayer is food for the spiritual body as air is to the natural body. We need to talk with God about the decisions we have to make each day. We need to remember our families, friends, and leaders of the church and nation.

BIBLE STUDY: Prayer and Bible study go hand in hand. When we pray, we talk to God; when we read the Bible, He talks to us. We need to study each day because God needs to remind us or tell us how to live for Him. He wants to tell us of His love, to comfort us, to help us in making decisions. We need to know what God thinks and expects of us. We need to know how to tell others about His love and forgiveness. In II Timothy 2:15 we read, *"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."*

FAITH: Girls, faith is just a five-letter word, but it is a great big word in a Christian's life. In Hebrews 11:6 the Bible says, *"Without faith it is impossible to please him."* We can't please God without faith. We must believe He can help us memorize the Forward Steps before we can actually memorize. We can't do anything to please Him if we don't have faith that He can do it for us.

Faith is simply taking God at His word. He has promised us everything that we need, if only we trust Him to provide the means.

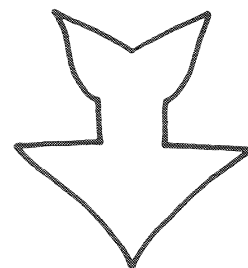
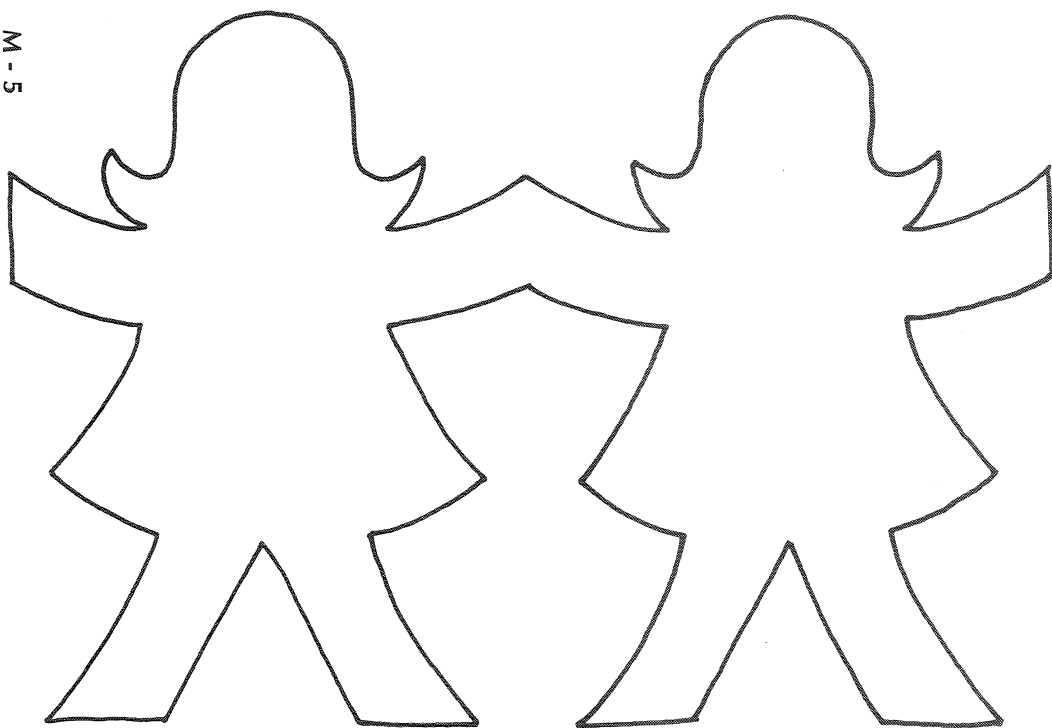
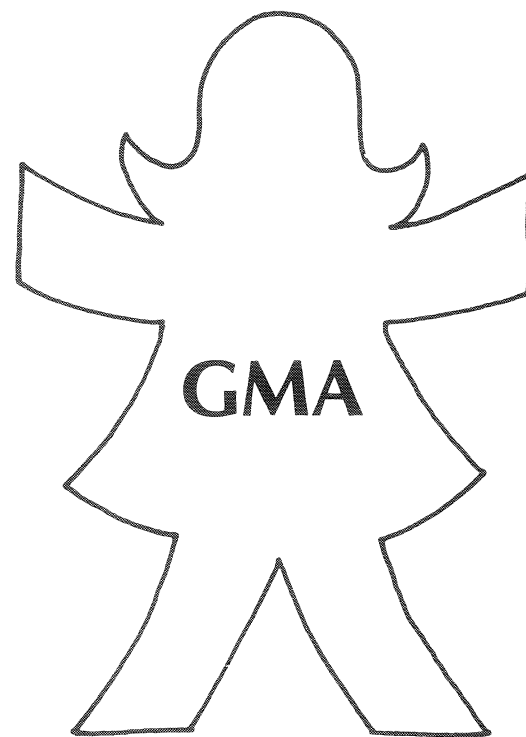
LOVE: When we have love for Jesus in our hearts, we will have love for others. In Matthew 22:37 Jesus said, *"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind."* Heart — soul — mind . . . that leaves nothing out, does it? Verse 39 says, *"Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."* When we love God first, love for our friends and neighbors comes naturally. When we think of how much Jesus has done for us, how can we keep from dwelling or staying in the realm of love?

SERVICE: Love and service go together. You can't love without serving. In John 14:15 Jesus says, *"If ye love me, keep my commandments."* Jesus did not save us for us to sit down but to be busy for Him. In GMA, you will be able to use your time and talents for others. You will receive real joy when you are working for Jesus. So, girls, let's work and serve.

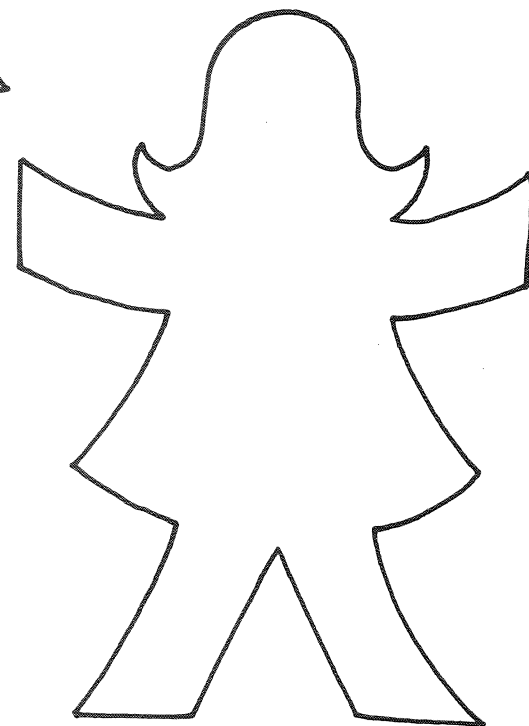
(Show Picture M-G.)

When you look at yourself (point to picture), where are you? Think! Am I truly what God wants me to be? Does my life show Christ when people take a closer look at me? Does my life magnify Christ, or does it magnify Satan? We are not perfect and will never be, but we can strive to do what God wants.

GMA — your place of service. Sometimes it is not an easy way, but it is a teaching and training time that will help you to become the girl that God wants you to be. **COULD YOU ASK FOR MORE?**



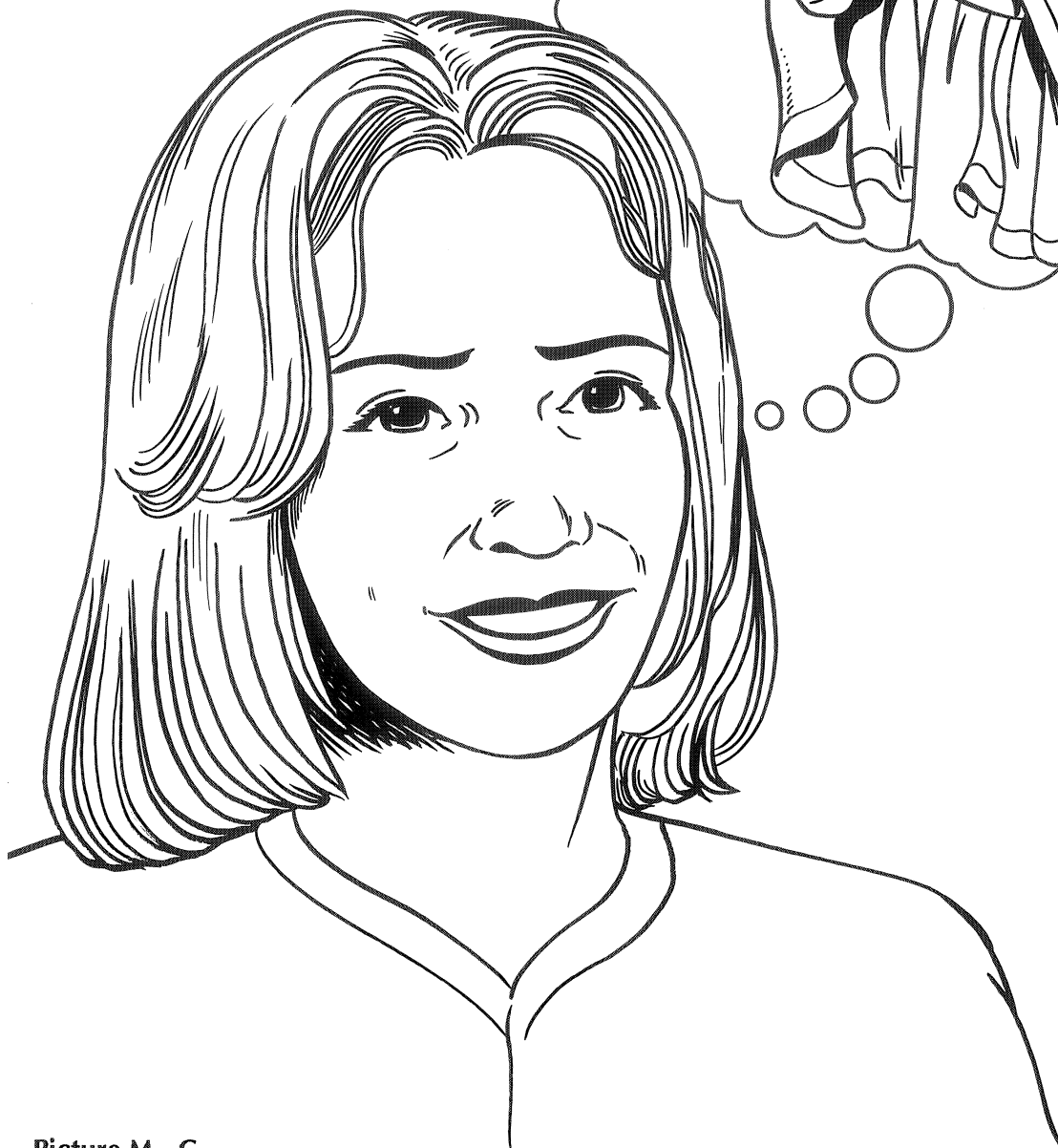
**MY
SPECIAL
PLACE**





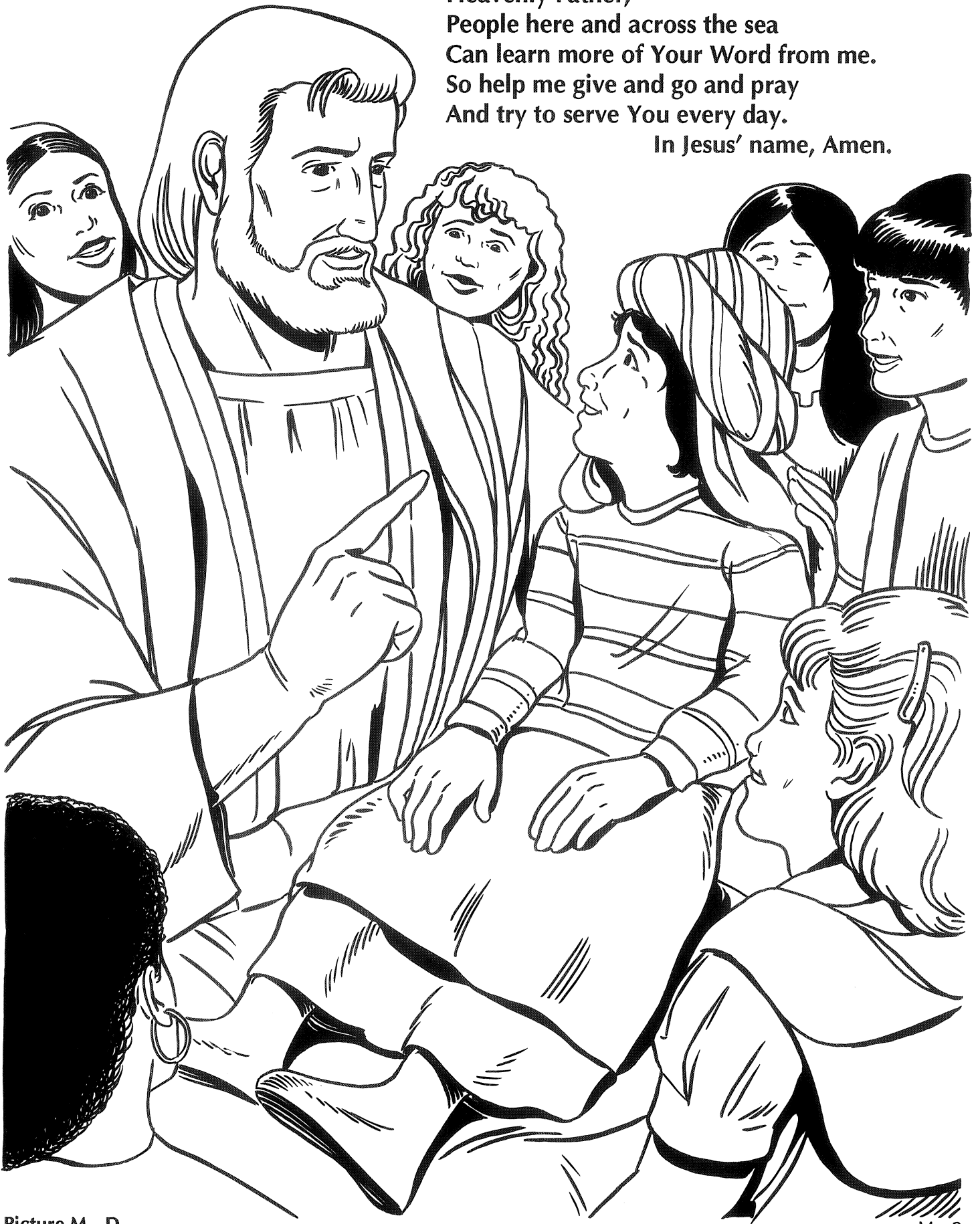
Picture M - B

"To be ever alert to the conditions which exist throughout the world, to keep our minds at all times centered on our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; to remember always to keep our bodies as temples of God, unspotted from the world; to cast selfish desires out of our hearts, and to help our Missionary Baptist churches to carry the gospel to every corner of the world."



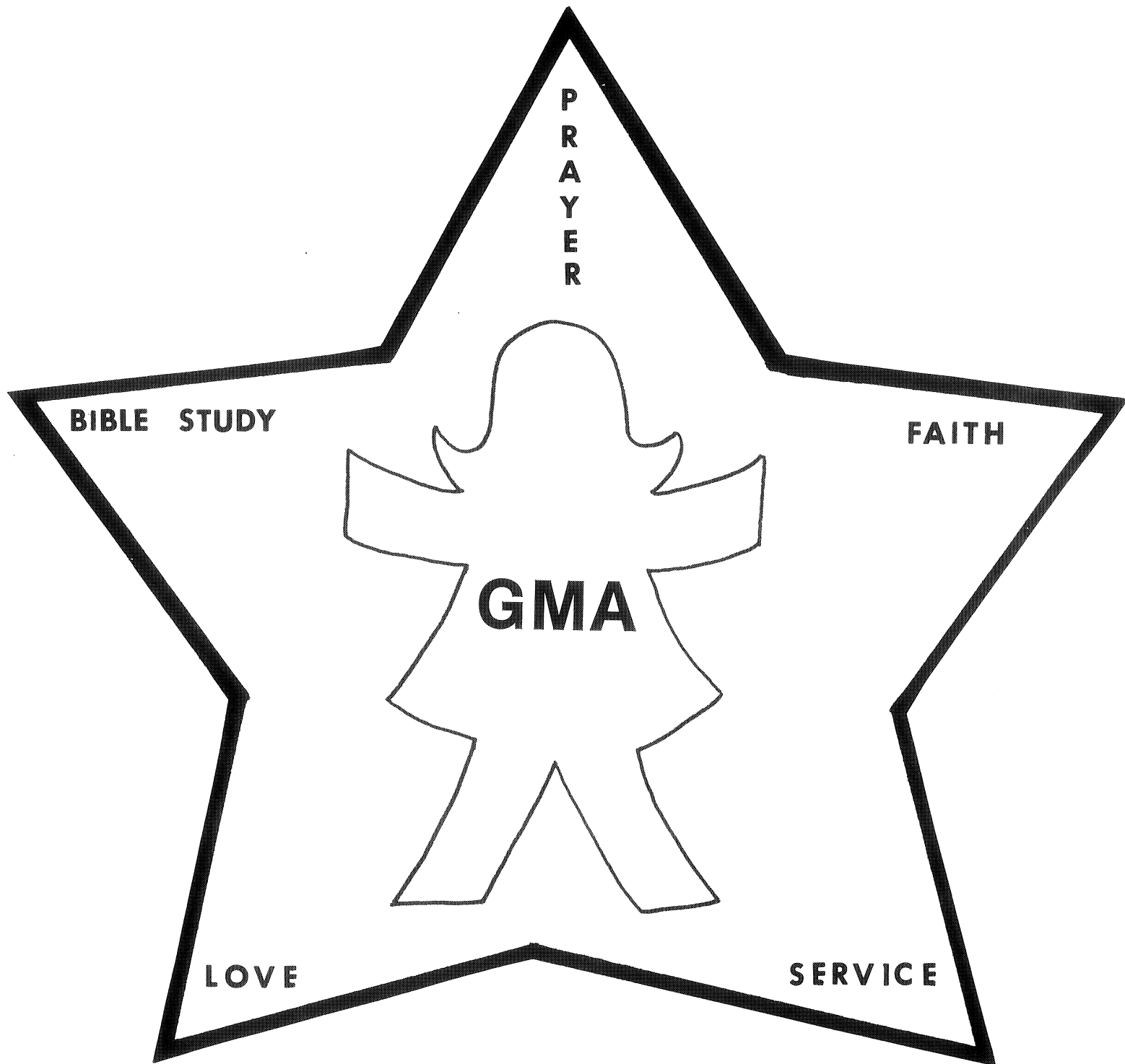
Heavenly Father,
People here and across the sea
Can learn more of Your Word from me.
So help me give and go and pray
And try to serve You every day.

In Jesus' name, Amen.





Picture M - E





I Am a Sinner

by Peggy Martin

NOTE TO THE TEACHER: When presenting the lesson, relate it to the girls personally. Let them read the scriptures and apply them to themselves. Present the lesson as if the girls had never heard of sin or God's provision for their sins. Upon completion of the lesson, ask questions to gain insight into their understanding. Be sure they know the meaning of the scriptures before trying to memorize.

(Place Bible on flannelboard. Place "MAN - PERFECT - GOD" outside on top.)

God made the first man and woman. They lived in complete fellowship with God because they knew only good.

God gave them a very good life with everything they needed to make them happy. They could have anything they wanted in the Garden of Eden except one thing. That was the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God knew what would happen if they chose to eat of the fruit so He told them not to eat it. He told them if they chose to do so, they would die.

Satan, in the form of a serpent, came along and told Eve that she would not surely die but that she would become as God. So she decided to disobey God and eat the fruit. She told Adam to eat the fruit and he, too, chose to disobey God.

Something happened! Before eating the fruit they had known only good — what is right; but now they knew evil. Knowing evil caused their spirit to die and they became spiritually separated from God. **(Place "SIN" over "PERFECT" separating man from God.)** Fellowship with God had been broken.

Their bodies did not die then, but they became under the power of sin and would die. Since we are born into Adam's sinful family, we have inherited his sin nature. We must die also. God placed a death penalty upon all because of what Adam and Eve did.

(Remove "MAN - PERFECT - GOD." Place "US - DEATH PENALTY" on left of "SIN" and "GOD - LIFE WITH JESUS FOREVER" on the right.)

(Place Romans 3:23 inside Bible on the lower left page.)

"For all have sinned" What is sin? (Place "WHAT IS SIN" above "SIN" diagram.)

Sin is:

- Being unkind
- Telling a lie
- Being angry
- Disobeying
- Wanting to have my way, not God's way

(Teacher: Ask the girls these questions, one at a time, and wait for a response before going to the next question.)

Have you ever been unkind? Have you been guilty of telling a lie — something that is not true? Have you disobeyed? How about being angry? Have you been mad before?

When we think about these things, we must admit it — we have sinned! Since we have sinned, the Bible calls us sinners. **(Place "I AM A SINNER" at the top of the Bible inside — centered.)**

Because we are sinners, we have come short of the glory of God. **(Place explanation under scripture.)** This means we have not lived up to the perfect goodness of God.

(Place Romans 3:9-10 inside of Bible on right side.)

"What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin."

The apostle Paul was telling the Jews that it had been proved before that no one is perfect — neither the Jews (God's chosen people) nor the Gentiles (everyone else). Everyone had sinned because it was their nature to do so.

He went on to say, *"As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one."* The Scriptures, containing the Law that God had given the people many years before, pointed out that there is none right before God. It is impossible for us to keep every rule. We are not good enough ourselves.

These scriptures (point to scriptures) tell us that we have sinned and are separated from God. We are under a death penalty, facing separation from God forever. But God, who was fair when He pronounced judgment upon us because of Adam's sin, has provided a choice that we ourselves can make. That choice is JESUS!

(Remove scriptures, leaving "I AM A SINNER." Place "BUT THE SCRIPTURE" at the bottom inside Bible.)

"But the scripture hath concluded all under sin" The Scriptures, containing the Law, declare that we can't help ourselves. They were given to point us to the ONE who can — JESUS. (Place remainder of scripture.)

God gives us a promise that if we receive Jesus into our lives, we can be free of the death penalty. Jesus took our punishment of death by dying himself. God was satisfied with His death as our sin debt and brought Jesus back alive. Since Jesus lives today, we can trust Him as our Savior. He purchased forgiveness and a new life for us.

However, this does not mean anything unless we receive Him into our lives. By doing this, we are accepting by faith that all He did, He did for us personally. We are trusting Him for what He can do in our lives in the future.

Jesus wants us to become God's children and have the promise of life forever with Him. By faith in Him, we can have that promise. The choice is ours!

(Place cross in the middle of Bible. Remove "I AM A SINNER." Place "US - DEATH PENALTY" on the left and "GOD — LIFE FOREVER WITH JESUS" on right.)

This is a flannelgraph lesson. Using spray adhesive, back each piece with flannel.
Flannel inside of Bible.

**WHAT THEN? ARE WE BETTER
THAN THEY? NO, IN NO WISE:
FOR WE HAVE BEFORE PROVED
BOTH JEWS AND GENTILES,
THAT THEY ARE ALL UNDER
SIN; AS IT IS WRITTEN, THERE
IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NO, NOT
ONE.**

ROMANS 3:9-10

MAN - PERFECT - GOD

**WE HAVE NOT LIVED UP
TO THE PERFECT GOODNESS
OF GOD.**

I AM A SINNER

SIN

THE WAGES OF

SIN IS DEATH

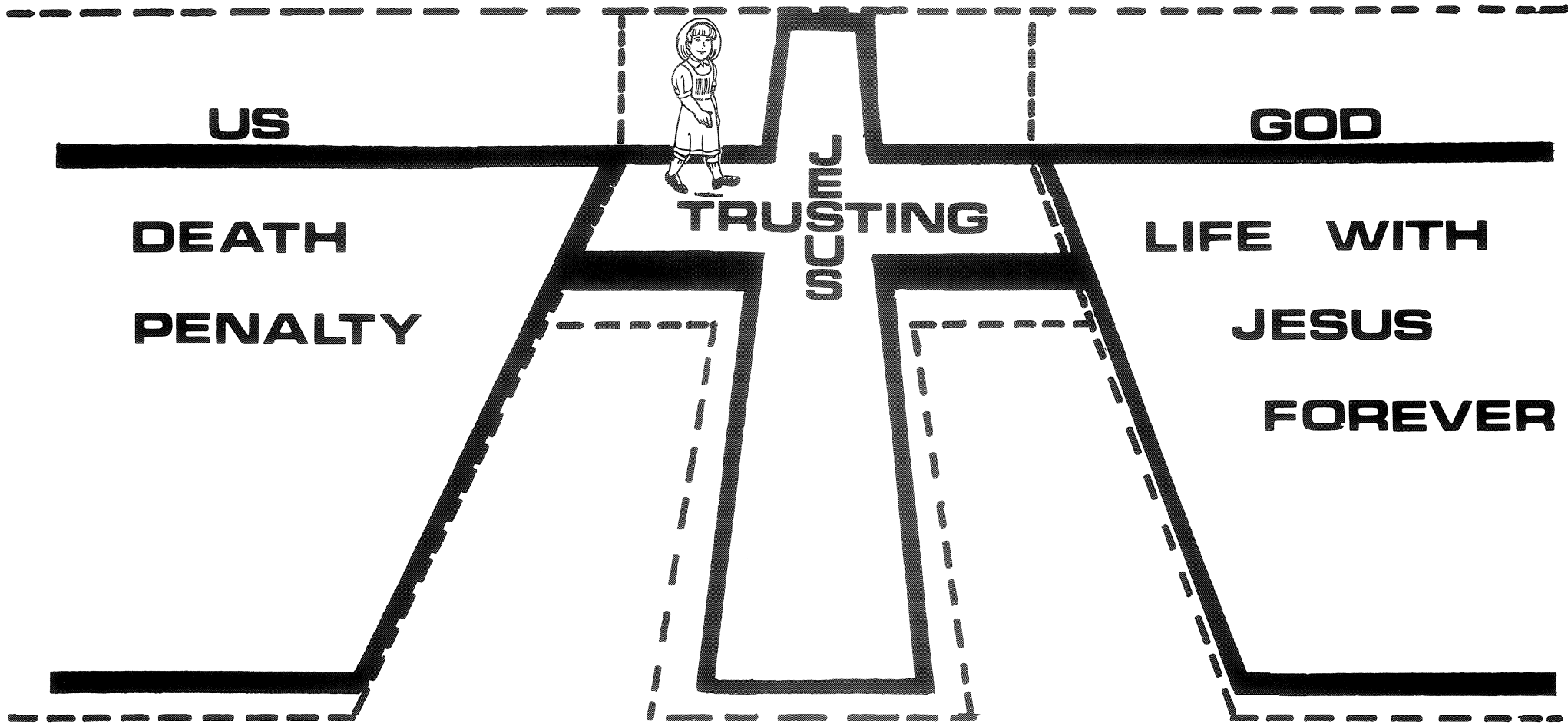
(SEPARATION FROM

GOD).

**FOR ALL HAVE SINNED,
AND COME SHORT OF THE
GLORY OF GOD.**

ROMANS 3:23

Cut out on dotted lines — cut cross out separately.



WHAT IS SIN?

BEING UNKIND

TELLING A LIE

BEING ANGRY

DISOBEYING

**WANTING TO HAVE MY
WAY, NOT GOD'S WAY**

BUT THE SCRIPTURE HATH

CONCLUDED ALL UNDER SIN,

THAT THE PROMISE BY FAITH

OF JESUS CHRIST MIGHT BE

GIVEN TO THEM THAT BELIEVE.

GAL. 3:22

Dana's Discovery

Aim: To aid each girl in sensing the responsibility for her own sin

NOTE TO THE TEACHER: Color the figures on pages M - 31 through M - 35, cut them out, and glue flannel on the back of each. If you have access to an enlarging copy machine, you may want to enlarge the figures first. You could also cut flannel to the shape of Dana's blanket (figure M - Q) and glue it in the picture for added effect. Color the box in figures M - U and M - V red. Before placing flannel on back of M - U, glue an envelope on the reverse side, and flannel the envelope. A string may be attached to the butterfly (figure M - Z) which is concealed behind the box in the envelope on the flannel board. The string will permit you to "fly" the butterfly as Dana attempts to catch it.

Introduction: Read Romans 3:23; 3:9, 10; Galatians 3:22. How many people does God say have sinned? Does that mean me? Does that mean you? To *"come short of the glory of God"* means to miss the mark or to fail to measure up to God's standards. God says that even His chosen people, the Jews, sin just as Gentiles. He says that not a single human being is innocent; we are all guilty of displeasing God. Sin is anything we do that displeases God.

STORY

"Dana."

(Place M - Q. If you made a flannel blanket, pull it over Dana's head.)

Dana pulled her blanket over her head.

"Dana, get up! We've got a long drive to the town where your father is preaching today," Mother called. Very slowly Dana crawled out of bed.

(Remove M - Q. Place M - R.)

"I won't know any of the girls there," Dana complained.

Dana found many things to grumble about all the time. Nothing seemed to satisfy her.

Dana complained her way to the little church. The drive was too long and too tiring. She even grumbled as they went inside.

"I wish I didn't have to sit on his hard old bench. I wish I could sleep and play all the time." Pretty soon Dana grumbled herself right to sleep.

(Remove M - R. Place M - S.)

She woke up just as her father was finishing his sermon. She heard him say, "Sin entered the world through the first man on earth, Adam. All the sadness and troubles of this world are because of sin. The Bible says, '*So death (separation from God) passed upon all men, for that all have sinned*'" (Romans 5:12).

(Remove M - S. Place M - R again.)

On the way home, Dana was complaining again. "If only Adam hadn't sinned, we would not have all this trouble." Dana had heard her father tell many times that Adam and Eve disobeyed the *only rule* God gave them.

"It is because of what *he* did that I am unhappy," she thought. "Adam was a wicked man. I sure wouldn't have been that stupid. I could have everything I wanted and never have to work at all if he hadn't disobeyed."

Dana would not admit to God or even to herself that she too was a sinner and had done many wrong things. She would not even admit that her complaining was sin.

(Remove M - R. Place M - T.)

That night Dana's father said, "Dana, all day long you've grumbled and fussed. I'm tired of your complaining. So I've decided that you'll never have to work anymore. You can sleep and eat all you want to."

Dana's brown eyes shown with delight. "You mean you won't scold me if I don't clean my room, and I won't have to do any work at all?"

"Yes, that's right," the preacher told his daughter. "The only thing you must not do is touch this little red box."

(Add M - U.)

"Why should I want to touch that old red box?" Dana fussed. "What's in it, anyway?"

Her father didn't answer her question. He just cautioned her, "The moment you touch this little red box, back to work you go."

"Huh? And just by leaving that old box alone I won't have to work? Why I won't even *look* at it."

"When you wake up in the morning," her father continued, "your mother and I will be gone. We'll be back late tomorrow evening. We'll leave food for you, and you can do anything you want all day. Only don't touch the box."

(Remove M - T and M - U. Place M - Q again.)

Dana slept well that night. She dreamed of living a whole life with no work and having everything she wanted. It was only when hunger woke her up that she crept out from under her blanket.

(Remove M - Q. Place M - V.)

The first thing her eyes saw was the curious-looking red box.

"I wonder what's in it," she muttered to herself. For a long while her eyes studied the strange little box.

(Remove M - V. Place M - W.)

Then she remembered how hungry she was. She dished out the breakfast her mother had kept warm for her. "Hmmm, this is good," she said smacking her lips. "Life is going to be great now! Good food and no work!"

(Add M - X. Then add M - U.)

After Dana finished breakfast, she turned on the television. But all the time her eyes kept wandering to the red box. Finally, she turned the television off and walked slowly over to the box.

(Remove all pictures. Place M - V again.)

"It won't hurt just to look at it," she told herself. Carefully, she put her hands behind her back so she wouldn't be tempted to touch the forbidden box.

(Remove M - V. Place M - U again and then M - Y.)

"Hmmm, that's funny! There's a catch on the lid! Yes, if I opened that, I could see what was inside. And Father would never know!"

Very carefully, almost without a sound, Dana lifted the lid of the box. Her heart was pounding with excitement!

(Use string to pull M - Z from behind M - U. Move M - Z and M - Y around the board as though in a chase.)

Then — whoosh! Out flew a little butterfly.

Dana made a grab for it. She missed. She tried again and again. The little butterfly seemed to mock at Dana's efforts to catch it.

Tears stung Dana's eyes. What could she do? It was getting late. Her parents would soon be coming! They must not know that she had disobeyed.

(Remove all figures except M - U. Then add M - W and M - X again.)

Dana carefully placed the box back on the shelf. She tried to forget about it. She hoped her father would have forgotten the box too!

When she heard her parents come home, she did not run to greet them as usual. She wanted to hide. She was so ashamed.

Suddenly she heard her father's angry voice. "Dana, come here!"

Dana knew she must obey and quickly.

(Remove all figures. Place M - T again. Add M - Z nearby.)

"I see you have opened the box," Father scolded. Dana did not answer.

"Well, Dana, I wanted to teach you a lesson," Father continued. "Since you disobeyed me, you must go back to work — you must be punished. You will be grounded until further notice. And you will clean the entire house tomorrow. You can no longer blame Adam. You have made your own choice. You are responsible for your own sin. Because you have disobeyed me, I must punish you."

"Oh, why did I touch the little box?" Dana cried.

(Remove all figures. Place M - Y again.)

Dana was busy cleaning her room when she realized how much her father loved her. "He has been very patient with me," Dana thought. "I need to tell him I'm sorry for all my complaining and disobeying."

(Remove M - Y. Place M - T again.)

Dana found her father seated on the couch in the living room.

"Father," Dana said softly, "I've sinned against you today and I'm sorry. Please forgive me.... And will you tell me again how I can be right with God?"

Her father looked at her. Dana could sense the love and forgiveness in her father's voice.

"Dana, the Bible tells us that God's penalty or payment for sin is death — to be separated from God and punished forever. But God made a way for you to be saved from sin. He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die in your place. Jesus gave His life's blood for you and me to be forgiven (Hebrews 9:22). He rose again the third day after His body was placed in a tomb. Dana, God says that He will give you the promise of eternal life when you place your faith in Jesus. If you tell God that you know you have sinned and believe His Son Jesus Christ died for you, your sins will be forgiven. He will give you everlasting life just as He has promised. He will give you the kind of life you need to live in heaven with Him. Would you like to tell God right now you need Him and receive the Lord Jesus into your life?"

"Oh, yes, Father," Dana replied. And she did just that.

(Remove M - T. Place M - AA.)

She prayed, "Oh, God, You were right. I am a sinner. I'm sorry for all the times that I have displeased You. Thank You for sending Your Son to take my punishment. Please forgive me and come to live in my heart."

(Add M - Z.)

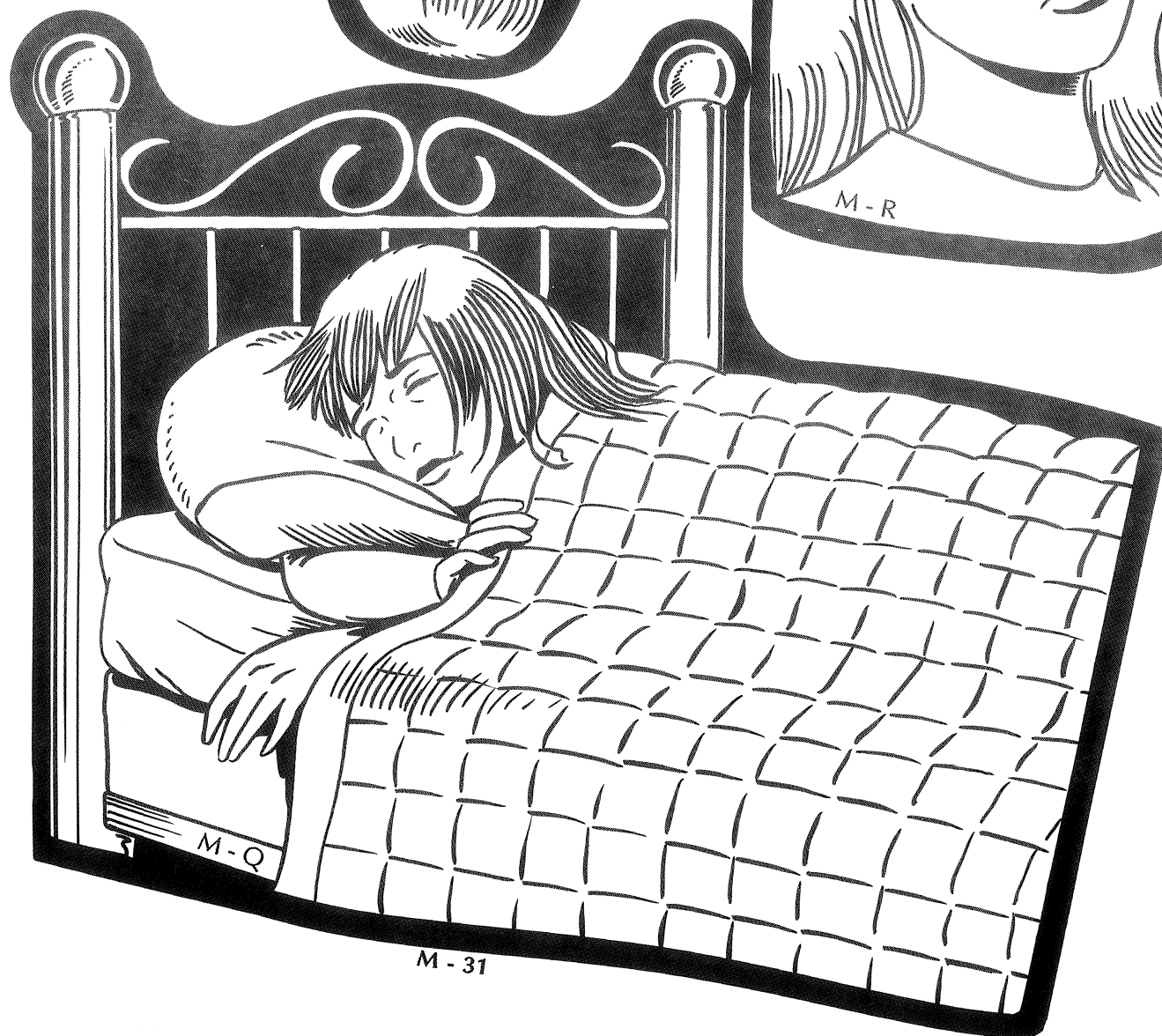
Just then Dana saw the little butterfly light on the windowsill. She thanked God as she remembered the lesson she had learned about her sin and the Savior God had given, who was now living in her.

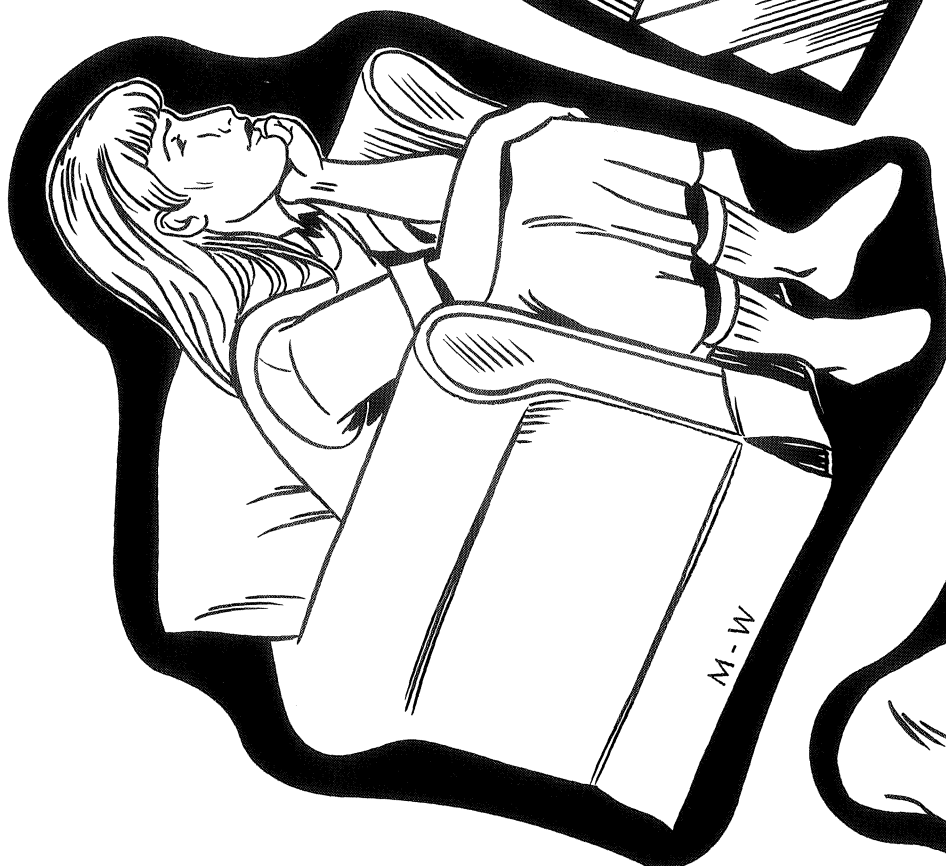
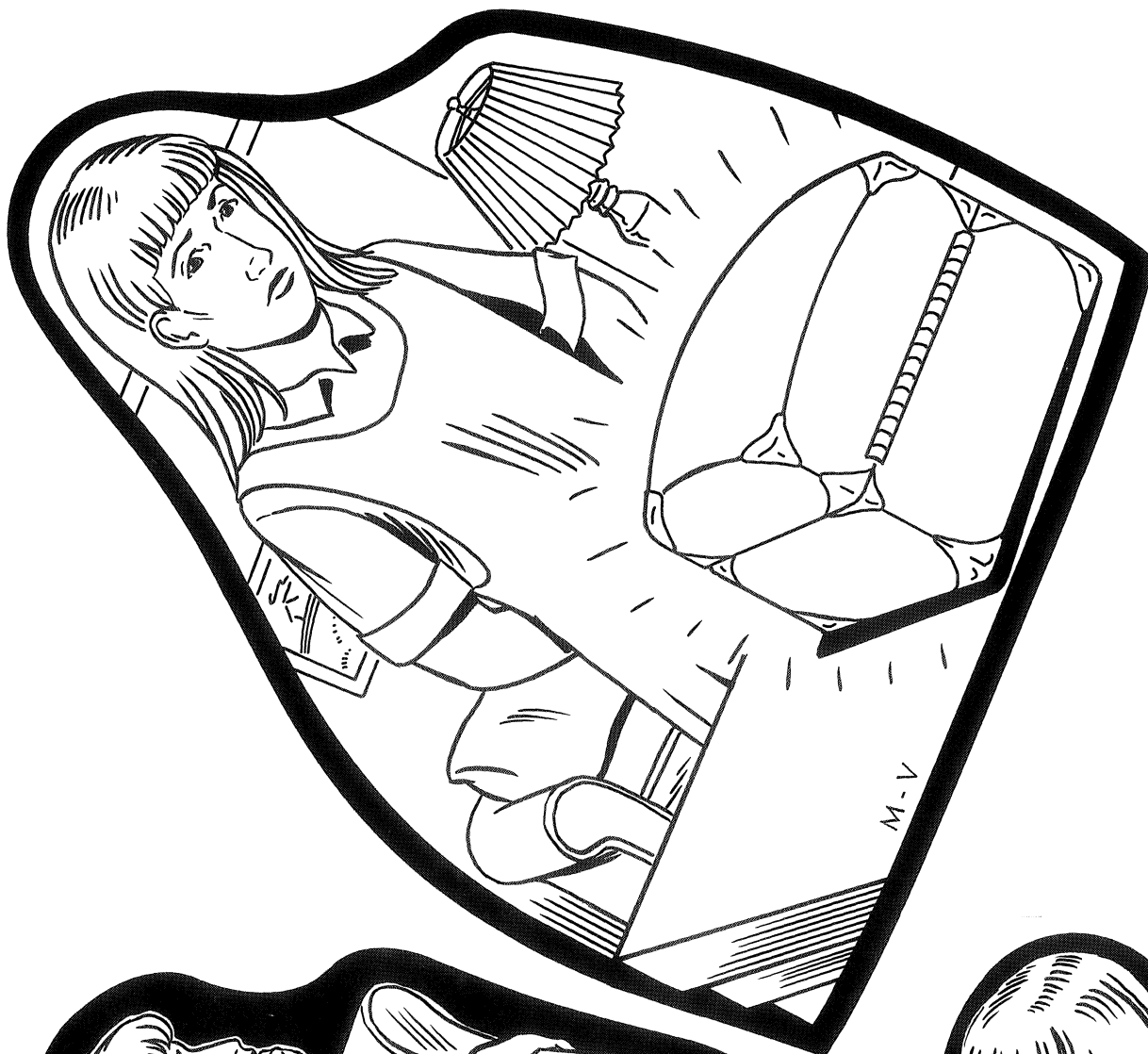
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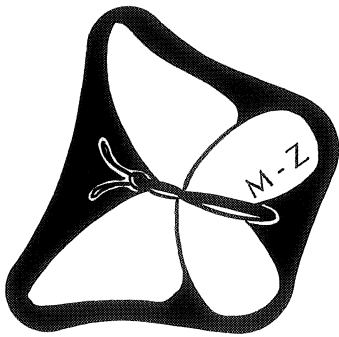
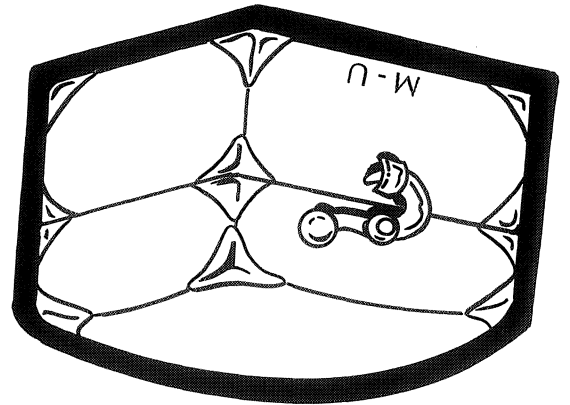
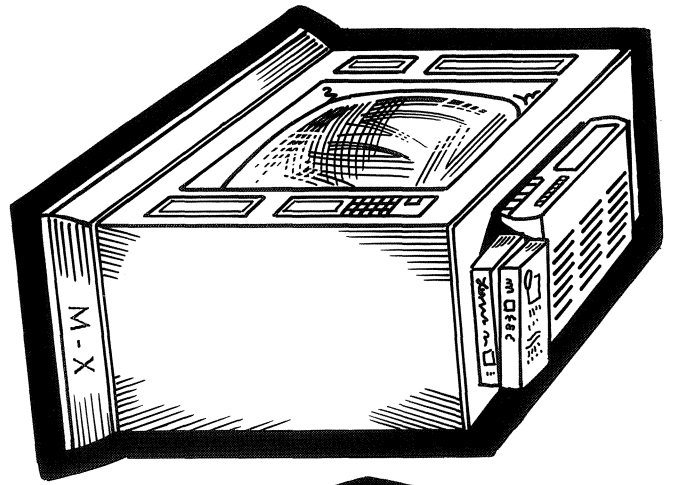
Have you been blaming the wrong things you do on someone else?

(Remove M - R. Place M - AA again.)

You need to admit to God that you have sinned. Believe that He sent His own Son to be your Savior from sin. *"The scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe"* (Galatians 3:22).







My Need of the Gospel

by Juanza Dye and Peggy Martin

NOTE TO THE TEACHER: This is a flannelgraph lesson. Using artist's spray adhesive, back with lightweight cardstock before backing with flannel. Use the Bible drawing from "I Am a Sinner."

In presenting the lesson the verses have been separated to present truths. Upon completion of the lesson, emphasize the meaning of the scripture in its complete form before allowing the girls to memorize it. Ask questions to gain insight into the girls' understanding of these truths.

(Place "My Need of the Gospel" on flannelboard. Place the Bible drawing underneath.)

I NEED THE GOSPEL BECAUSE:

(Place "All we like sheep . . ." on left page of Bible.)

"All we like sheep have gone astray, we have turned every one to his own way" (Isaiah 53:6).

Most of you have probably seen a sheep or pictures of them. So you know that they are white curly-haired animals. If you happen to know someone who has a flock of sheep, they will most likely tell you that it is not uncommon for one sheep to stray away from the others. Sheep require watching and caring for. We are like this — many times we want to do things that are not good for us because this is the nature of sin. We want to have our way instead of God's way.

I NEED THE GOSPEL BECAUSE:

(Place "I shall not see life . . ." on right page of Bible.)

"He that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36).

Because I have not received Jesus into my life, God's anger continues upon me.

I NEED THE GOSPEL BECAUSE:

(Place "I am forever separated from God" on lower right page.)

"For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world . . . but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God" (John 3:17, 18).

God has already judged me. My sentence is: I am forever separated from God because I have not believed in Jesus.

(Point to illustration.)

I NEED THE GOSPEL BECAUSE: I want to go my own way. I am a sinner. God's anger continues upon me. God has already judged me. My sentence is: I am forever separated from God.

(Remove all pictures and Scriptures except Bible.)

If we were to take a look at the meaning of "My Need of the Gospel," we would find that another way to say this would be "I Must Have Jesus." **(Place "I must have Jesus" above Bible.)**

I MUST HAVE JESUS BECAUSE:

(Place Jesus on left page of Bible.)

"The Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:6).

Jesus took my punishment for the sins I have committed, and I am no longer guilty if I receive Him into my life. This means I have been forgiven. Only He can remove the guilt and the sins.

I MUST HAVE JESUS BECAUSE:

(Place "He gives never-ending life" on the right page of Bible.)

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life" (John 3:36).

To have everlasting life means to have never-ending life. Jesus gives me never-ending life.

I MUST HAVE JESUS BECAUSE:

(Place "He brings salvation" on lower right page of Bible.)

" . . . but that the world through him might be saved" (John 3:17).

Through Jesus I can be saved. He brings salvation from the death penalty.

(Point to each illustration as you recap.)

I MUST HAVE JESUS BECAUSE: Only He can remove the guilt and the sin. He gives never-ending life. He brings salvation from the death penalty.

(Remove all pictures and Scriptures except Bible.)

I have seen my need of the gospel and why I must have Jesus. How can I receive Jesus into my life? John 3:16 tells me.

(Place "For God so loved . . ." on left page of Bible.)

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

For God so loved me that He gave Jesus. (***Place cross, burial and resurrection on right page.***) These represent God's love for me and Jesus' willingness to die in my place.

For God so loved me that He gave Jesus, so that I would believe in Jesus. Believe in Jesus means: (1) Accept who He is — He is God, the Son; (2) Accept what He has done — He paid the penalty for my sin and purchased forgiveness; (3) Accept what He can do in my life — He will continue to forgive me when I sin; He will answer my prayers; He can change my attitude.

If I believe in Jesus, I can ask His forgiveness for my sins and invite Him to take control of my life. Because He knows I am sincere, He will accept my invitation and I can receive Him into my life. By receiving Him, I have the promise that I will not be separated from God but will live forever.

I MUST

HAVE

JESUS

MY NEED

OF

THE

GOSPEL

ISAIAH 53:6



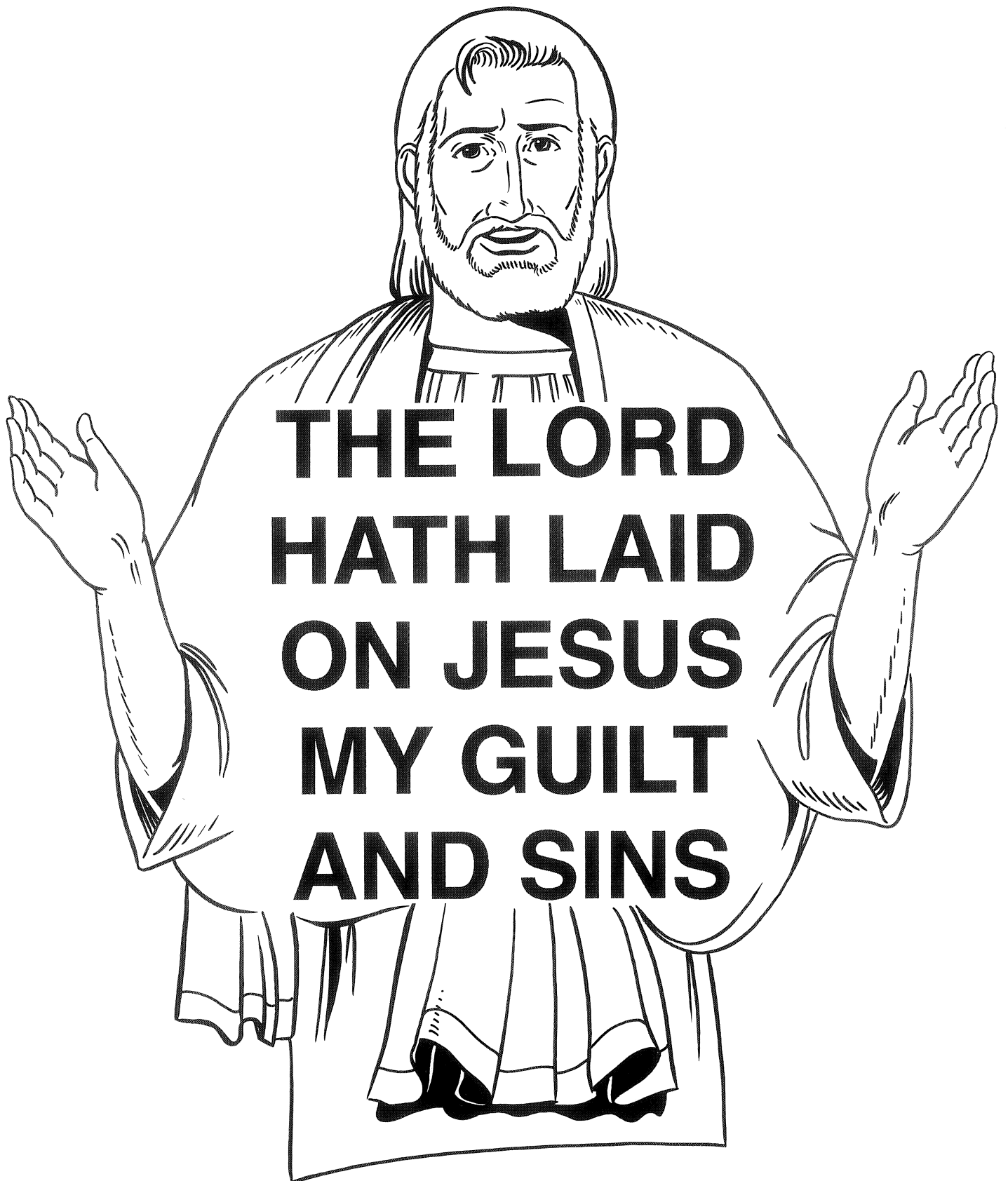
**ALL WE
LIKE SHEEP
HAVE GONE ASTRAY,
WE HAVE TURNED
EVERY ONE TO HIS
OWN WAY**

Cut out on dotted line.

Cut out on dotted line.

**I AM FOREVER
SEPARATED
FROM GOD**

**I SHALL NOT SEE
LIFE, BUT THE
WRATH OF GOD
ABIDETH ON ME**



**HE BRINGS
SALVATION**

**HE GIVES
NEVER-ENDING
LIFE**

FOR GOD SO LOVED ME

THAT HE GAVE JESUS,

THAT IF I WOULD

BELIEVE IN JESUS

ACCEPT WHO HE IS

WHAT HE HAS DONE

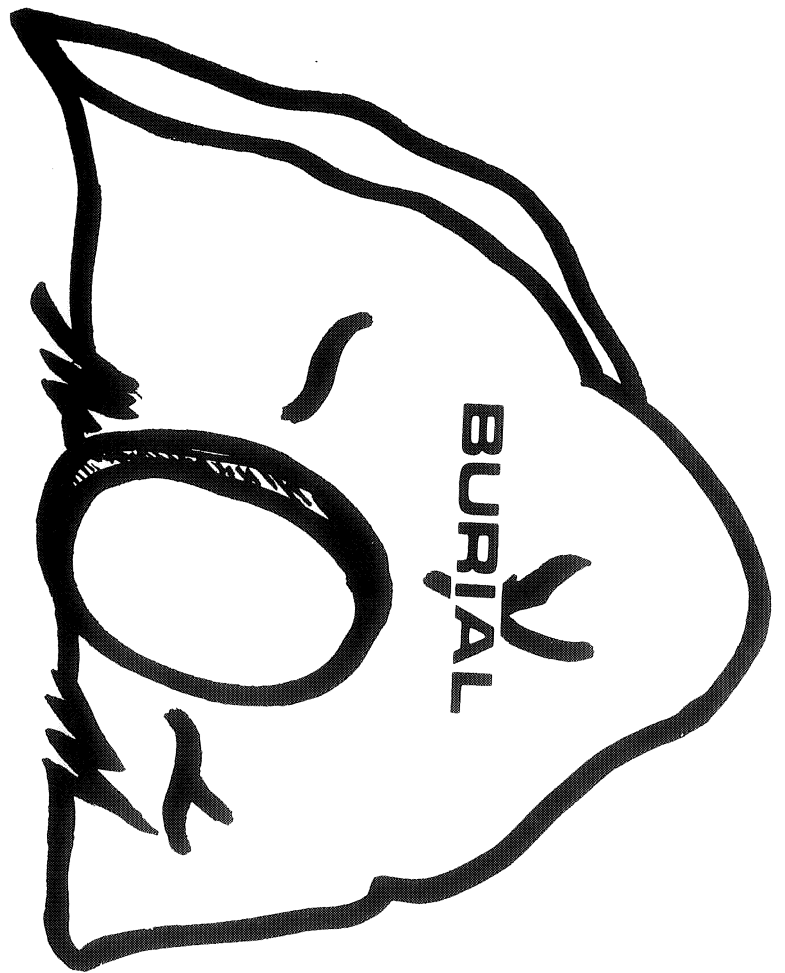
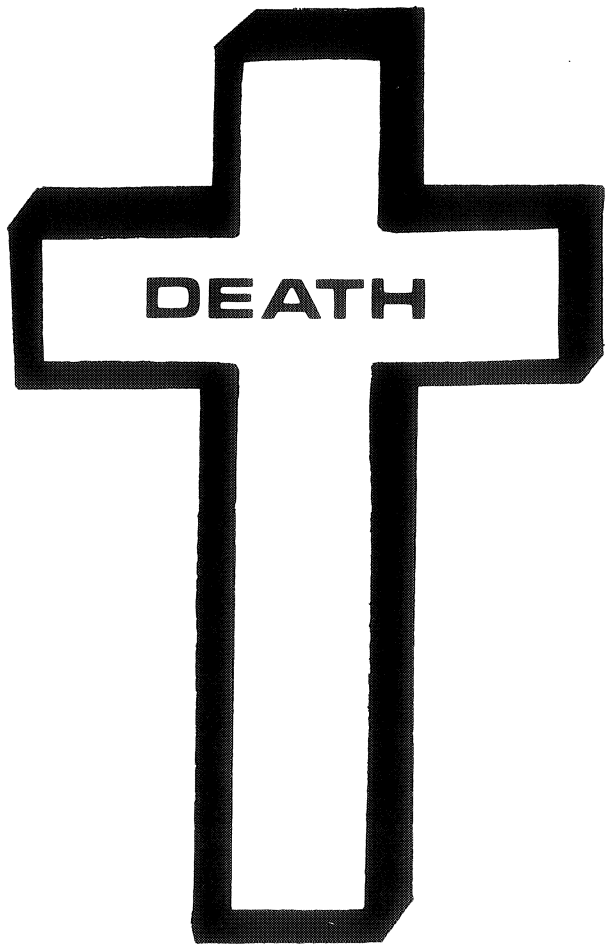
WHAT HE CAN DO IN MY LIFE

I WILL NOT BE

SEPARATED FROM

GOD BUT WILL

LIVE FOREVER.



What I Must Do to Be Saved

by Peggy Martin

NOTE TO THE TEACHER: This is a flannelgraph lesson. Using artist's spray adhesive, back with lightweight cardstock before backing with flannel. Use the Bible drawing from "I Am a Sinner."

The Maiden step has been planned to present the complete plan of salvation. After hearing this lesson, the girls will have heard the plan of salvation three times. Be sure to invite lost girls to accept Christ.

(Place "WHAT I MUST DO TO BE SAVED" on flannelboard.)

First, let's look at the word *saved*. "To be saved" means to be made safe.

(Place "MADE SAFE" under *saved*.)

Why do we need to be made safe? The Bible tells us the answer is found in what happened between God and the first man. God made Adam a responsible being with a freedom of choice and placed him in an ideal environment. They walked together in mutual love and enjoyment. Adam was asked to show his love for God by obeying a simple rule. God asked him not to eat from the tree called the knowledge of good and evil. He told Adam that if he chose to do so, he would die.

Adam doubted God's Word and chose to believe Satan's lie. Satan told him that he would not surely die but that he would become like God himself.

When Adam and his wife ate the fruit, their nature changed and disobedience and pride became a part of their being. They destroyed personal companionship with a holy God by their own choice. God pronounced a death sentence upon them because of their sin.

Since we are born into Adam's family, we have inherited his sin nature and also the death penalty.

(Place Bible under "WHAT I MUST DO TO BE SAVED.")

God says in Romans 6:23, "*The wages of sin is DEATH.*" **(Place on left page of Bible.)**

This is saying, "The pay for disobeying God is separation from Him forever."

We might fool ourselves by saying this doesn't apply to us because we haven't sinned. We couldn't possibly do all "those bad things" the pastor talks about. Perhaps we haven't heard *all* the things he has been saying.

Let's take a closer look at the meaning of SIN. **(Place "WHAT IS SIN" outside of Bible.)**

Sin is:

- Being unkind
- Telling a lie
- Being angry
- Disobeying (God, parents, teachers)
- Wanting to have my way, not God's way

After looking over the list, we must admit — we have all sinned many, many times.

This scripture does apply to us. "*The wages of sin is death.*" But God loves us and offers to us a way to escape. Just as He gave Adam and Eve a choice, He gives us a choice today. We can choose either to continue life without Him under the death sentence or choose to accept His way of escape.

What is His way of escape? Jesus says, "*I am the way.*"

(Place "I AM THE WAY" at the top of right page.)

He is right! The last part of the verse says, "*The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*"

(Place on board under first part.)

Why Jesus? Who is He and what did He do?

God loved us so much that He sent Jesus, His Son, to earth as a man to bring us together — to make things right between God and man. To do this, Jesus gave His life in death. He took the punishment for the sins we have committed. He was punished because of us. His death was the payment to God for our sins. Because He lives today, we can be free of the death sentence and will be forgiven for our sins. Our physical body will perhaps one day die, but our spirit will never die. God promises us never-ending life with Him and the Lord Jesus in heaven.

Who is Jesus? He says, "I am God, the Son."

(Place under "I AM THE WAY.")

What did He do? He says, "I paid the penalty for your sins by dying in your place."

(Place under "I AM GOD, THE SON.")

What is He saying to us? "I am alive today and want to save you."

(Place under "I PAID THE PENALTY.")

(Remove everything from the board except the Bible and the lesson title.)

Knowing that Jesus is our way to escape, what must I do to be saved? A prison guard asked the same question to his missionary prisoners. God's Word recorded their answer to him.

(Place Acts 16:31 on the left page.)

"And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved, and thy house."

What does it mean to believe on the Lord Jesus?

(Place "BELIEVE ON JESUS" on right page.)

To believe on Jesus means to accept: (1) Who He is — He is God, the Son; (2) What He has done — He paid the penalty for my sin and purchased my forgiveness; (3) What He can do in my life — He will save me and continue to forgive me when I sin. He will answer my prayers. He will change my attitude.

(Remove everything from the Bible.)

Romans 10:9 expresses it this way.

(Place first part of scripture on left page.)

"If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus. . . ."

(Place girl's head at the top of right page.)

To "confess with thy mouth" means to acknowledge that Jesus is the way to God. (Read her words.)

(Place girl's heart on right page.)

". . . And shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead. . . ."

(Place second part of scripture under first part.)

To "believe in thine heart" means to agree with what your lips are saying. In other words, you believe what you are saying — placing your trust in Jesus.

(Read scripture again adding "THOU SHALT BE SAVED.")

(Remove everything from the Bible.)

The next verse explains it further.

(Place on board.)

"For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

It is actually what we believe in our heart that brings us into a right relationship with God. We can't fool Him. He knows what is in our heart. We confess what is in our hearts and Jesus saves us.

(Place Romans 10:13 under scriptures.)

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Anyone who asks Jesus to save her has that promise.

(Remove everything from the Bible.)

Have you been made safe from the death penalty? Are you still separated from God? If so, Jesus is saying to you . . .

(Place "I AM ALIVE" across the Bible.)

"I AM ALIVE TODAY AND WANT TO SAVE YOU."

Cut out visuals on dotted lines.

WHAT

!

MUST

BELIEVE

**ACCEPT
WHAT**

HE

HAS

CAN

DO

IN

MY

LIFE

DO TO BE

IN

JESUS

WHO

HE IS

DONE

SAVED

MADE

SAFE

I AM ALIVE TODAY

AND WANT TO SAVE YOU

JESUS SAID,

“ I AM THE WAY ”

WHAT IS SIN?

BEING UNKIND

TELLING A LIE

BEING ANGRY

DISOBEYING

WANTING TO HAVE MY

WAY, NOT GOD'S WAY

**FOR THE WAGES OF SIN
IS DEATH;**

**BUT THE GIFT OF GOD IS
ETERNAL LIFE THROUGH
JESUS CHRIST
OUR LORD.**

ROM. 6:23

I AM GOD, THE SON

**I PAID THE PENALTY FOR
YOUR SINS BY DYING
IN YOUR PLACE**

THAT IF THOU SHALT
CONFESS WITH THY MOUTH
THE **LORD JESUS,**

AND SHALT BELIEVE IN
THINE HEART THAT GOD
HATH RAISED **HIM** FROM
THE DEAD,

THOU SHALT BE **SAVED.**

ROMANS 10:9

FOR WITH THE HEART
MAN BELIEVETH UNTO
RIGHTEOUSNESS;

**AND WITH THE MOUTH
CONFESSION IS MADE
UNTO SALVATION.**

**FOR WHOSOEVER SHALL
CALL UPON THE NAME
OF THE LORD SHALL
BE SAVED.**

**AND THEY SAID,
BELIEVE ON THE LORD
JESUS CHRIST,**

**AND THOU SHALT BE
SAVED, AND THY
HOUSE.**

ACTS 16:31

I know that you are God,
the Son. I believe that
you took the punishment
for my sins. I am
giving my life
to you because
only you can
save me.



I know that you
are God, the Son. I
believe that you
took the punishment
for my sins. I am
giving my life to
you because only
you can save me.

Sweeter Than Honey

by Mrs. Bill Martin

NOTE TO TEACHER: Using a recipe that appeals to girls, bake and decorate a sheet cake like a large Bible. Don't let the class see the cake until you are ready to use it. Although you will serve only small portions of the cake at the beginning of class, you will offer the girls full servings with juice at the end.

Put the following Scripture references on individual index cards:

- Psalm 119:103 • Psalm 19:8-11 • I Peter 2:2 • Jeremiah 15:16

Assign those verses to four girls before class begins. Help them locate the scriptures, so they will be ready to read when you call on them.

Write Psalm 119:103 on index cards to be given to all the girls at the end of the lesson.

Make a poster like illustration M-69 to present this lesson. Prepare it in one of the following ways:

1. Use a copy machine to photocopy the chart on an overhead transparency. Cover each question with a masking card until you are ready to discuss it.
2. Use a poster board and a color marker to copy the chart in enlarged form. Cover the headings and questions with paper strips until you are ready to discuss them.
3. Copy the chart on a chalkboard before class time. You may cover each item with adding machine tape until you are ready to reveal it.

(Display a jar of honey or a picture of one.)

Our lesson today is called "Sweeter Than Honey." Can you think of something that would be sweeter than honey? It would have to be very sweet to be sweeter than honey, wouldn't it? Listen closely to the lesson to see if you can discover what is sweeter than honey.

(Display the Bible cake. Give each girl a bite-size piece. As the pupils eat their cake, reveal the word *cake* on the left side of your poster. Reveal the questions below as you ask them. Write the girls' answers underneath the questions.)

How did the cake taste? (sweet, yummy, delicious, good)

Did you have enough cake? Why not? (No, because there wasn't enough to enjoy. A small piece made me want more.)

How can eating a piece of cake help your body? (It gives nourishment and strength.)

Can looking at the cake help your body? Why or why not? (No, I would have to eat it.)

The Bible is like a cake in some ways. Let's see why.

(Place a Bible on the table next to the cake. Reveal the word *Bible* on the right side of the poster. Then reveal the questions below as you discuss them.)

How does the Bible taste? **(Ask the appointed student to read Psalm 119:103. Write the verse as the answer to the question.)**

"How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!"

Can you imagine anything sweeter than honey? God says His Word is sweeter than honey. It is sweeter than your favorite cake with luscious frosting. **(Repeat the verse.)**

Did this scripture fill you, or do you want to hear more? **(Ask the appointed girl to read Psalm 19:8-11. Write verses 10, 11 as the answer on the poster.)**

If you enjoy reading the Bible, you will never be satisfied reading just one verse. It's like having a whole cake but only taking a bite and then walking away.

How does reading the Bible give you nourishment? **(Ask the appointed girl to read I Peter 2:2. Write it under the question.)**

"As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby."

Why do new Christians want the pure milk of God's Word? They want to grow into strong, mature children of God. It takes nourishment and energy from God's Word to be strong and mature.

Can looking at the Bible help you? If I open the Bible to any page and look at the verses, can it help me grow? Will I become like Jesus by merely looking at the Bible?

No one can become like Jesus by looking at the Bible. We have to read the verses carefully to get the nourishment we need to become Christlike. We have to take each verse into our hearts and minds. Unlike eating food, there is no waste from our eating the words of God. Each verse dwells within our minds and hearts.

Let's read again Psalm 19:11. *"By them (the words of God) is thy servant (you or I) warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward."*

When we are facing temptation, God recalls to our memory His warnings. He brings a verse into our minds when we need it.

Can you think of a time when you were about to get into trouble and God reminded you not to do it? Has God reminded you when you were about to disobey your mother, *"Children, obey your parents"*? Or when you were being unkind to someone, did He bring to your memory, *"Be ye kind one to another"*?

You probably learned those verses when you were very small. Has learning those verses helped you live better? Surely it has.

If we have the sweetness of God — His holy Word — in our hearts and minds, we are going to be sweeter; that is, if we let God tell us how to behave and then obey Him.

"By them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward." How can we be rewarded for obeying God? Think of the good things that have happened to you after deciding to obey God. **(Wait for responses and comment on them.)**

One of God's prophets, Jeremiah, had this to say about God's Word. **(Ask the appointed student to read Jeremiah 15:16.)**

Have you ever been so happy that you couldn't stand still? How did you feel? Did your mouth move faster than your brain could think? Did you clap your hands or jump around?

That's how Jeremiah felt. He felt joy and excitement when he discovered God's truths from the Word; it spoke to him. God's Word will speak to you and me if we take the time to carefully study the Bible. To study means to read slowly, thinking about what God is saying to us as individuals.

God's Word, the Bible, is sweeter than honey. The more we read it, the sweeter it gets. The more we read it, the more we love the words of God. The more we love it, the more we want to learn. Learning is delightful when God is the teacher!

Years ago, the Jewish people used honey to teach their children about the sweetness of God's Word. When a baby was born, his gums were rubbed with honey to introduce him to its wonderful taste. On the first day of school the young child was shown a slate (a student's small blackboard) which had the Hebrew alphabet written on it along with two verses of Scripture. Then his slate was coated with honey. The student quickly licked the honey off. He was remind of Ezekiel, who ate the scroll, the Word of God, and said, "I ate it, and it was in my mouth as sweet as honey." (See Ezekiel 3:3.) After this, the child was given sweet cakes to eat with Bible verses written on them.

Don't you think the Jews had a good idea? By comparing the sweet taste of honey and the Word of God, the student saw the Bible in this way: *"How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!"*

Let's pause and thank God for giving us His Word — the Bible.

(At the close of your prayer, thank God for the refreshments — the Bible cake and juice. Give each girl a full-size serving.)

CAKE

How did the cake taste?

Did you have enough cake?
Why not?

How can eating a piece of
cake help your body?

Can looking at the cake help
your body? Why or why not?

BIBLE

How does the Bible taste?

Did this scripture fill you, or
do you want to hear more?

How does reading the Bible give
you nourishment?

Can looking at the Bible
help you?

God's Messengers

by Mrs. Bill Martin

NOTE TO TEACHER: Ask your pastor to record a brief message to the GMA telling how excited he is that the girls are studying the books of the Old Testament and pledging his prayers for this effort.

Make a poster by enlarging illustration M-75. Draw the shapes on the poster, but do not write the labels until the appropriate times during the lesson. The poster will be used in this lesson as well as "The Prophet Messengers."

The girls need their outline of the poster in *My Special Place*. Have them fill in their outline as you complete yours.

You may want to complete your visual before class time, using strips to cover the wording. As you teach, take each strip off at the appropriate time.

Can anyone tell how the Jews at one time taught their children the importance of the Bible? That's right. When a baby was born, his gums were rubbed with honey. The first day he attended school, he was given a slate with the Hebrew alphabet and two Scripture verses written on it. The slate was then coated with honey. Immediately, the young child would lick the slate clean. This would remind him of Ezekiel, the prophet, who ate the scroll with God's words written on it, and of what Ezekiel said: "I ate it, and it was in my mouth as sweet as honey."

How do we know that the Bible is sweeter than honey? (**Read Psalm 119:103 together. Then have each girl quote the scripture from memory.**)

Now that we know the Bible is sweeter than honey, let's find out why. Who wrote the Bible? Why was it written? To whom was the Bible written? How did we get it?

This year we will learn some things about the Old Testament. In the Lady-in-Waiting step we will study the New Testament.

Before we begin, I have a message for you that someone gave me. Let me play it for you. Listen closely to the words. (**Play the recorded message.**)

Who sent the message? Why did he send the message? (Our pastor cares about us. He wanted to encourage us by telling us he is praying while we study.) How did you receive the message? (It was delivered by the teacher.) What did you have to do to receive it? (Play the recorder.)

That shows us how God gave us the Bible. He used about forty different messengers during more than fifteen hundred years to deliver His words to us. His messengers wrote sixty-six books that make up the Bible. The name *Bible* means "book."

God didn't use a tape recorder to deliver His message to us. He used other ways to get His message through. Let's take a look at one of those ways.

(**Write Moses in the proper position on the poster.**)

God chose Moses to lead the Hebrew nation out of Egypt, where they had been slaves. Because of their disobedience and complaining, they stayed in the desert for forty years. Not once did God turn His back on them. Their clothes didn't wear out, they had food to eat, and they always had God leading them.

While the people were camped at the foot of Mount Sinai, Moses went up the mountain to hear God. God told him to remind the people how He had taken care of them like a mother eagle takes care of her babies. God also told Moses to tell the Hebrews that if they obeyed Him, they would become His own special people. They would be a holy nation. Then God sent Moses down the mountain to give His message to the people.

When Moses told the people, they said, "We will obey. What God says, we will do."

Again Moses went back up the mountain to hear God. God told Moses, "I will come in a thick cloud. Everyone will hear Me speak to you and will always believe you. Now go back to the people and tell them to get ready for My visit. Have them wash their clothes and be clean. I will come the day after tomorrow."

God told Moses to make a line at the bottom of the mountain. No one, animal or human, was to cross the line. If anyone touched the mountain, he would die.

Then the Lord said, "A trumpet will blow a long sound. That will signal the people to come out to the mountain."

On the morning of the third day there was a great thunderstorm. Lightning flashed and thunder boomed.

Then a thick, dark cloud came down upon the mountain. The people heard the sound of a loud trumpet.

Moses began to walk toward the mountain. The people, dressed in clean clothing, followed him. He stopped at the foot of the mountain without crossing the line.

The mountain was covered in smoke because God came down upon it in a fire. An earthquake shook the mountain.

The trumpet sound grew louder and louder. Moses spoke to God, and God answered him with a voice. God then called Moses to come up the mountain.

God sent him down to warn the people again not to cross the line at the bottom of the mountain.

After Moses warned the people, God began to speak. He spoke the laws that are called the Ten Commandments. **(Show the class Exodus 20.)**

We have these laws in our Bibles just as God spoke them to the Hebrews hundreds of years ago.

The people were frightened by the smoke, thunder, and lightning. They could hear the sound when God spoke. Trembling, they backed away and said to Moses, "Speak to us and we will obey, but don't let God speak to us. We might die."

Moses told them, "Don't be afraid. God wants you to know that He is great so you won't want to sin."

As the people stood far away from the mountain, Moses went into the thick cloud where God was. There on the mountain God spoke to Moses many days. With His finger God wrote the Ten Commandments on a stone.

Moses was God's messenger when he wrote the first five books of the Old Testament. These five books are called *The Law* because they contain the rules God gave to His children.

God gave the Law to show boys, girls, men, and women how to conduct themselves as His children. When anyone breaks these rules, there is a penalty or punishment. There is also a way to receive forgiveness for disobeying God.

The law proves to us that we are all sinners. No one can keep God's commandments by himself.

In Old Testament times a person could receive forgiveness by sacrificing a healthy lamb as an act of faith. The lamb represented Jesus. By believing that God would someday send the Messiah (Christ) and that the animal was picturing Jesus' death, a person could receive forgiveness.

How do we receive forgiveness for our sins today? (Pause for an answer.) That's correct. We receive forgiveness by believing that Jesus took our place when He died. All of our sins — those we committed yesterday, the ones we have committed or will commit today, and the sins we will commit tomorrow — can be forgiven because of what Jesus did for us. We only have to be sincerely sorry for disobeying God and ask His forgiveness.

(Write Law under Moses on the poster. Under Law write the books Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy.)

Moses wrote Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. Let's practice pronouncing these books.

(Write several men in the column next to Moses. Write history in the column next to Law.)

What does the word *history* mean? *History* is the story telling what has happened in the life of certain people or the story of a country.

God used several men to record the story of His chosen people, the descendants of Abraham. From these records we can see who God is, how He deals with people, His love, His anger — everything about God is shown through the lives of the Hebrews. He chose that race to show the world who He is. When we study about the Hebrews, we are learning about God.

By reading these books, we find out why learning and obeying the Law were so important to the Hebrews. In the end God's law was all they had to keep them together as a nation.

(Write the following books below history: Joshua, Judges, Ruth, I Samuel, II Samuel, I Kings, II Kings, I Chronicles, II Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther.)

Let's say these books together so you will learn how to pronounce them.

What do you do when you are happy? Do you sit still and keep your mouth closed? Probably not. Most of us make a joyful noise called singing. Isn't that true?

The people in Bible times were no different. They sang too. God is pleased when we sing to Him. The book of Psalms tells this. It is a book of songs — happy songs, prayer songs, songs asking for forgiveness, songs that tell God how much we love Him.

Singing is another way to talk with God. Sometimes we can sing a thought better than we can say it. That's what David did. He wrote prayer songs in the fields when he was a shepherd boy and in his palace when he became a king. It seems that everywhere David went, he talked with God. Psalm 57 was written

from His hiding place in a cave. He needed God to give him strength that day. **(Read Psalm 57:1-4).**

By writing poems that could be set to music, David received comfort when he was in danger or when he needed forgiveness. We too can be comforted by David's writings because we know he was the messenger of God. David said, *"The Spirit of the LORD spake by me, and his word was in my tongue"* (II Samuel 23:2).

We can read verses in Psalms and make them our prayer songs to God. We can worship God by making the words become our words. We did that when we quoted Psalm 119:103. Why don't we tell the Lord once again? **(Recite or sing the verse.)**

The book of Psalms is in a part of the Bible called *poetry*.

(Write *poetry* on the poster. Put the books of *Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon* in the book shapes. Read these names slowly. Write *David, Solomon, and others* above *poetry*.)

These are the books of poetry. We don't know the author of Job. David wrote many of the Psalms. King Solomon wrote most of Proverbs. He also wrote Ecclesiastes and the Song of Solomon.

Let's say these books together.

Who wrote the Bible? God wrote it. Moses, David, Solomon, and the others functioned as the messengers. They wrote what God told them to write. We have received it because of God's love. The Bible is God's message to us. In response to His love, let's quote our memory verse to Him: *"How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!"*

The Prophet Messengers

by Mrs. Bill Martin

NOTE TO THE TEACHER: Use the poster begun in "God's Messengers." As you write additional labels on the poster, let the girls write them in their lesson books.

How many can say the divisions of books, the books of the Bible, and the writers we studied last week? **(Review these, giving each girl an opportunity to recite them.)**

Before we begin our lesson, I have a question for you. If God wanted to speak to you today, what would He do? Would He call you on the telephone? Would He write you a letter? Or would He put the message in the newspaper for you to read?

The truth is, God does want to talk to you. That is why you have a Bible. Everything God wants to say to you is recorded in His Word, the Bible. **(Display the Bible. Turn the pages as you talk. Do this each time you refer to the Bible.)**

In Old Testament times, when God wanted to speak to His people, He used a prophet. God spoke to the prophet, and the prophet told the people what God said. God used different ways to speak to the prophets. Listen closely to see how He spoke to one of His prophets named Jeremiah.

(Write *Jeremiah* in second book outline.)

Jeremiah was a young man when God first called him to be a prophet. In fact, Jeremiah told God he was too young to do the job God wanted him to do. He tried to make excuses, but God wouldn't take no for an answer. Turn in your Bibles to Jeremiah 1:4-9. **(Ask a girl to read the verse.)**

What did God do to Jeremiah? (He put His words in Jeremiah's mouth.)

There were no more excuses from Jeremiah. God had put His words in Jeremiah's mouth. So Jeremiah began telling the people what God had said. People didn't want to listen because Jeremiah told them they were sinning. But the words were not Jeremiah's; they were God's.

Once God told Jeremiah to get a scroll and a pen to write His message. Jeremiah enlisted the help of an assistant named Baruch in this project. "Write down what I tell you," Jeremiah told Baruch. His friend wrote down the words of God as Jeremiah spoke them.

Baruch went into the streets and read the words of God to the people as they were going to the temple. It wasn't long until the king's officers heard what was happening. They questioned Baruch about the mes-

sage. "Where did you get the words on that scroll? Did Jeremiah tell you?"

"Yes," Baruch replied. "God gave Jeremiah the words, and I put them on the scroll."

The officers told Baruch to take Jeremiah and hide. They hid the scroll and then went to tell the king about it.

When the king heard about the scroll, he demanded that it be brought to him. The officers took the scroll from the hiding place and brought it to the king.

As one of the officers read a portion of the scroll, the king would take his knife and cut off that part. He would then throw it into the fire.

The king probably thought he would get rid of God's words by burning them up. He was mistaken; no one can destroy God's Word.

While Jeremiah was in his hiding place, God spoke to him. "Take another scroll and write all the words again. And this time I will give you more words."

Again God put words in Jeremiah's mouth. As Jeremiah spoke, Baruch wrote them down. This time the words were not destroyed. **(Show the Bible opened to the book of Jeremiah.)** Today we still have these words from God because they are in our Bible in the book of Jeremiah.

(Write prophets in the center above the book outlines.)

The books of Jeremiah and Lamentations were written by Jeremiah. These books, along with three others, are called the *Major Prophets*.

(Write major on the poster to the left of prophets.)

First, we have Isaiah, then Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, and Daniel.

(Write these in the book outlines.)

Each book except Lamentations is named after the writer. Who wrote the book of Isaiah? That's right! Who can tell me who wrote the book of Ezekiel?

Practice saying these books with me. **(Recite the books until the girls can easily pronounce them.)**

The next twelve books are called the *Minor Prophets*. They are not less important than the Major Prophets. The difference between the Major Prophets and the Minor Prophets is the amount of material written. The Minor Prophets are shorter books.

(Write minor in the drawing on the right side. Write Malachi in the last book outline.)

The last book in the Old Testament is Malachi. There are thirty-nine books in the Old Testament. Each book pointed to the coming of the Messiah. The word *Messiah* means "Christ."

Who is the Messiah? Of course, Jesus is the Messiah.

Malachi told about John the Baptist, who was to announce the Messiah's coming. He wrote this four hundred years before Jesus was born. Turn to Malachi 3:1. Let's read what he said: *"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts."*

John the Baptist announced the Messiah's coming. The Gospel According to John states, *"John bare witness of him (Jesus), and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me; and he was before me. And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace"* (John 1:15, 16).

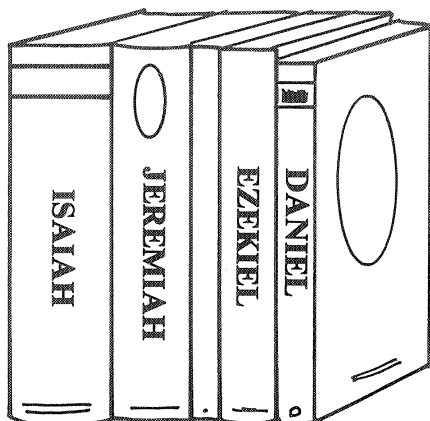
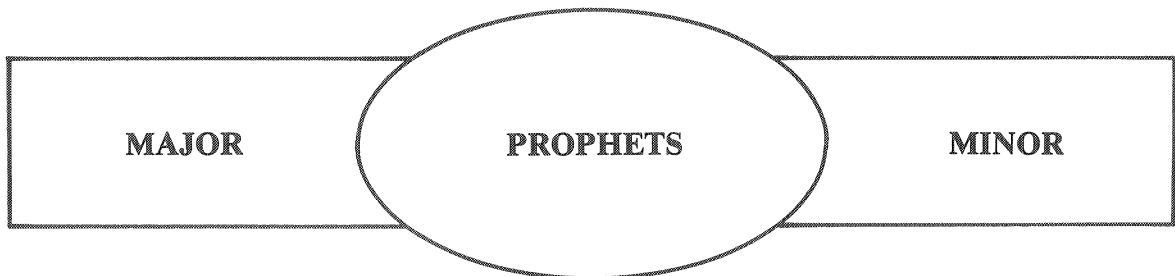
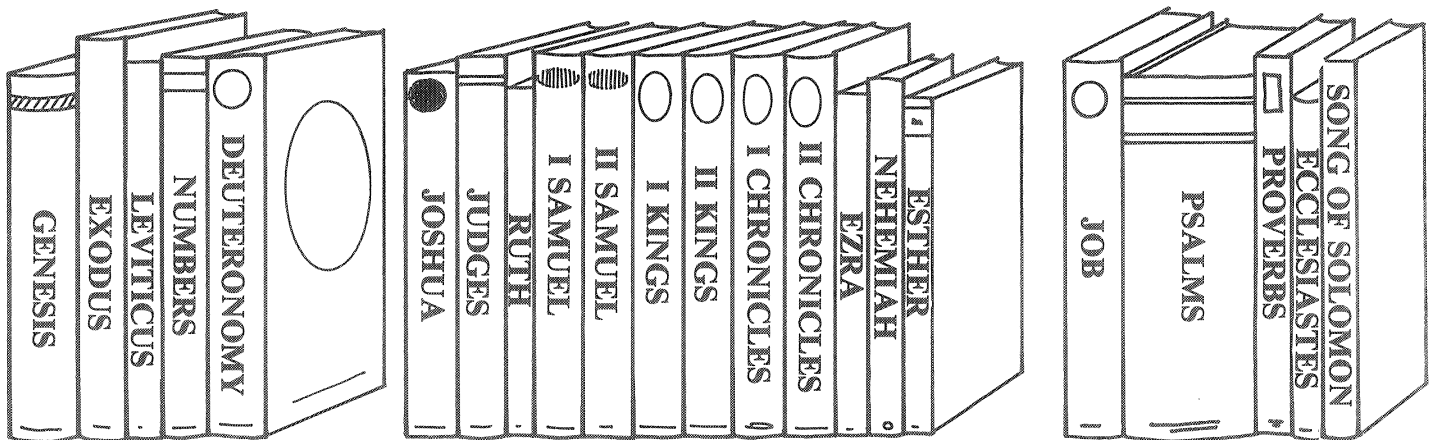
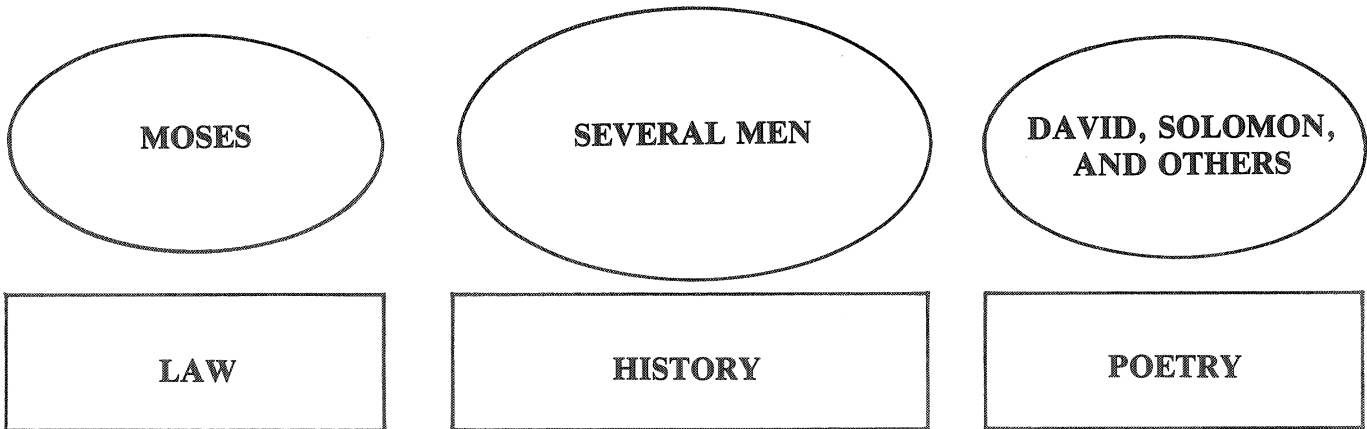
God used Malachi to express His love to His chosen nation, the children of Israel. Although they doubted His love, He reminded them of His promise to send the Messiah.

Not only that, but God's love prompted Him to warn His people what would happen to them should they disobey Him. Over and over God sent warnings to the Israelites by His prophet messengers to turn from their sins. His message expressed love and concern for the welfare of His people.

Today we can learn from the prophet messengers. God preserved His message for you and me.

Let's thank Him by quoting Psalm 119:103 together: *"How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!"*

The memory work for this lesson will be to learn the entire list of the books of the Old Testament. By learning their names, we can find them without having to look in the Bible index.



You Can Be a Missionary Too!

by Mrs. W. D. (Nell) Smith

NOTE TO THE TEACHER: Prepare the visuals by coloring the pictures, cover with clear contact paper, and back with flannel or you may use tacks to fasten them to a bulletin board as you teach the lesson. Connect each of the pictures (**M-H, M-I, M-J, etc.**) as you teach the lesson. The word displays (**Where, How do you start, etc.**) are to be placed above the pictures.

What is God's plan for missions? God's Word gives us His plan. It tells us that God loves everyone and that He planned a way for us to be forgiven of our sin. The Bible also tells how Jesus came into the world to show you God's love.

As you study what the church did in New Testament times you discover that Christians told others about Jesus. Missions means telling others about Jesus. God's plan is for you to be involved in missions. How can you? By praying for missionaries and their work, by giving money for missions, and by doing mission activities where you live. Do you get the idea now that anyone can be a missionary? Yes, you can be a missionary too! (**Display picture M-H.**)

Where can you be a missionary? (**Display "where"**)

Right where you are! (**Display "Right where you are!"**) The message of salvation should be taken to all the world, but you should start right where you are — in your home, in your family, in your town. That is where Jesus' disciples started. (**Display M-I**) (**Read Luke 24:47**) Jerusalem was where the message of salvation started. That was about two thousand years ago. The message is still the same and the plan for carrying it is still the same — people telling people about Jesus.

How do you start? (**Display "How do you start?"**)

First, you must give your heart to God. (**Display "Give your heart to God."**) The Bible teaches all have sinned. (**Display M-J**) You have already learned in GMA that *"All have sinned and come short of the glory of God"* (Romans 3:23). Everyone is a sinner; everyone falls short of God's glorious ideal. That means you were a sinner. You can not get to heaven on your own. You must know God's way and accept that way. Acts 16:31 says, *"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."*

To be a missionary, you must first be saved yourself. A missionary must first know Jesus and His salvation in order to tell others about Him. The next step to becoming a missionary is to learn to love other people (**Display "Learn to love other people"**) as much as you love yourself.

(**Display Picture M-K**) Find Matthew 22 in your Bible. Jesus had been asked what was the most important commandment. Listen to His answer (**Read Matthew 22:37-39**). So, you should love others as much as you love yourself. That does not mean you love all their actions, but you should love people as much as you love yourself.

You should not let anyone think little of you just because you are young. Be a pattern for them in your love, your faith, and your clean thoughts. Now, you shouldn't have to tell them that. You should live in such a way that they will see Jesus in your everyday living. Be an ideal Christian — be a pattern, an example for them in your love, your faith, and in your thinking.

You should (**Display M-L** and **"Be kind to others"**) be kind to others and show them you care by the way you live. You should make friends (**Display "make friends"**) with others. Find I Timothy 4:12 in your Bible (**Read I Timothy 4:12**). Girls can be examples just as much as adults can, and probably easier than adults. Your words, your conversation, the way you live, your love, your faith in God, living a clean life — all of these are examples of ways you can show others that Jesus lives in you.

You can tell your friends what you know about the Lord, (**Display "Tell your friends what you know about the Lord."**) and you can invite them to church. (**Display "Invite them to church."**) But, it is not enough just to invite your friends to church. If you are not living before them a clean, loving, kind life, they will not listen to you. You should be excited about living for Jesus and show it in the way you live. (**Display Picture M-M**)

Peter and John were told not to talk about Jesus to people after they had been arrested by the Jewish leaders, but they answered in Acts 4:20, *"We cannot but speak the things we have seen and heard."* They had been with Jesus; they had watched Him day by day. Well, you may be thinking, if I could have seen Jesus do all those miracles, I could be excited too. Did you know that you can read in the Bible about all the things

Peter and John were talking about? You can be just as excited as they were and feel as though you will burst if you cannot tell someone about Jesus and what He has done for you.

Another way you can show that you love Jesus is to work hard at school! **(Display M-N and “Work hard at school!”)** You may be thinking, “Oh, no!”

Nevertheless, you need to get a good education. **(Display “Get a good education.”)** Do you want to hear Jesus say, “Well done, my faithful servant”? Right now your service to Him is to work hard in school. He wants you to be a good example of diligence — faithful to finish a job given to you to do. Not only should you study hard at school, but you should also study God’s Word just as hard.

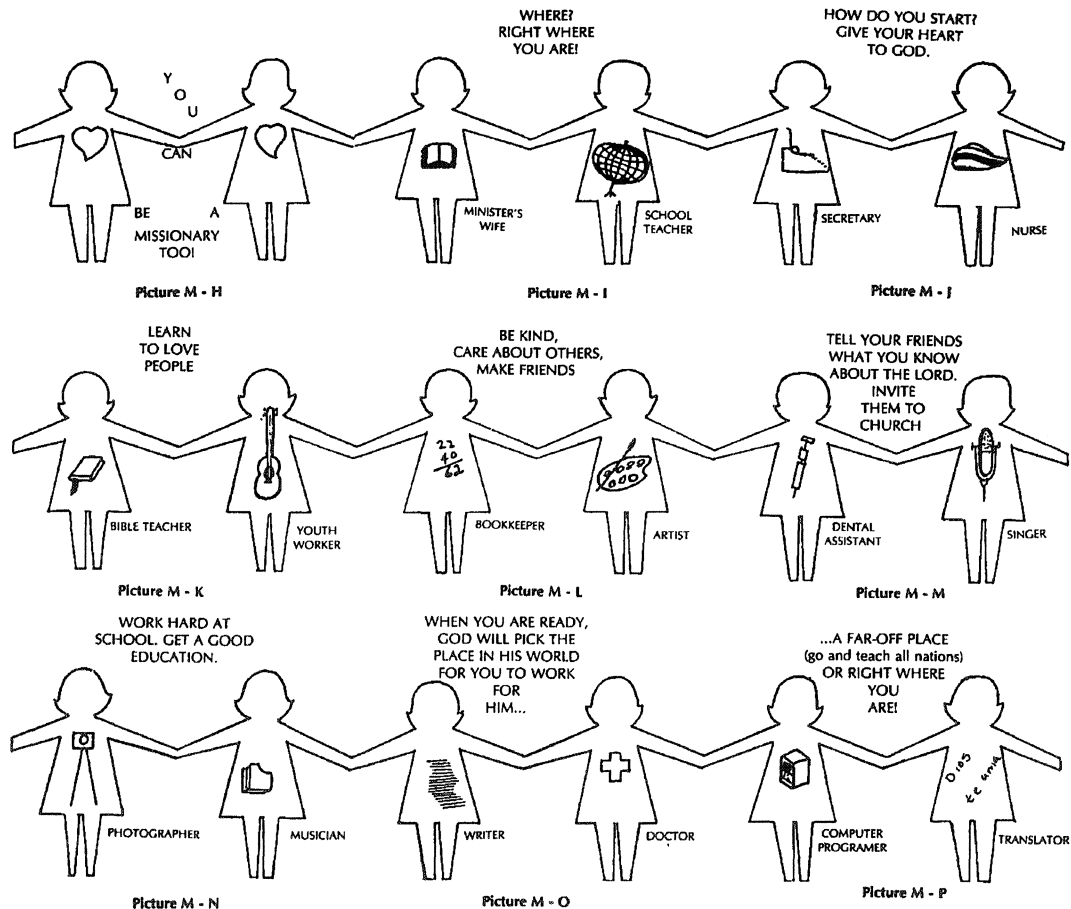
Now find II Timothy in your Bible **(Read II Timothy 2:15)**. “Study” means to be diligent or work hard. Be a hard worker at learning so you can understand the Word of God. You don’t want to be ashamed when God examines your work for Him, do you? Of course not. You need to know what His Word says and what it means. Knowing some of what His Word tells you helps get you ready to tell others about Jesus, in other words, to become a missionary.

(Display M-O and “When you are ready, God will pick the place in His world for you to work.”) When you are ready, God will pick the place in His world for you to work. You don’t have to know all about His Word right now. Learn the Word as you complete your GMA work, attend Sunday School, and study your Bible at home. Always try to learn what Jesus is saying to you day by day. He wants you to work for Him. **(Display “for Him...”)**

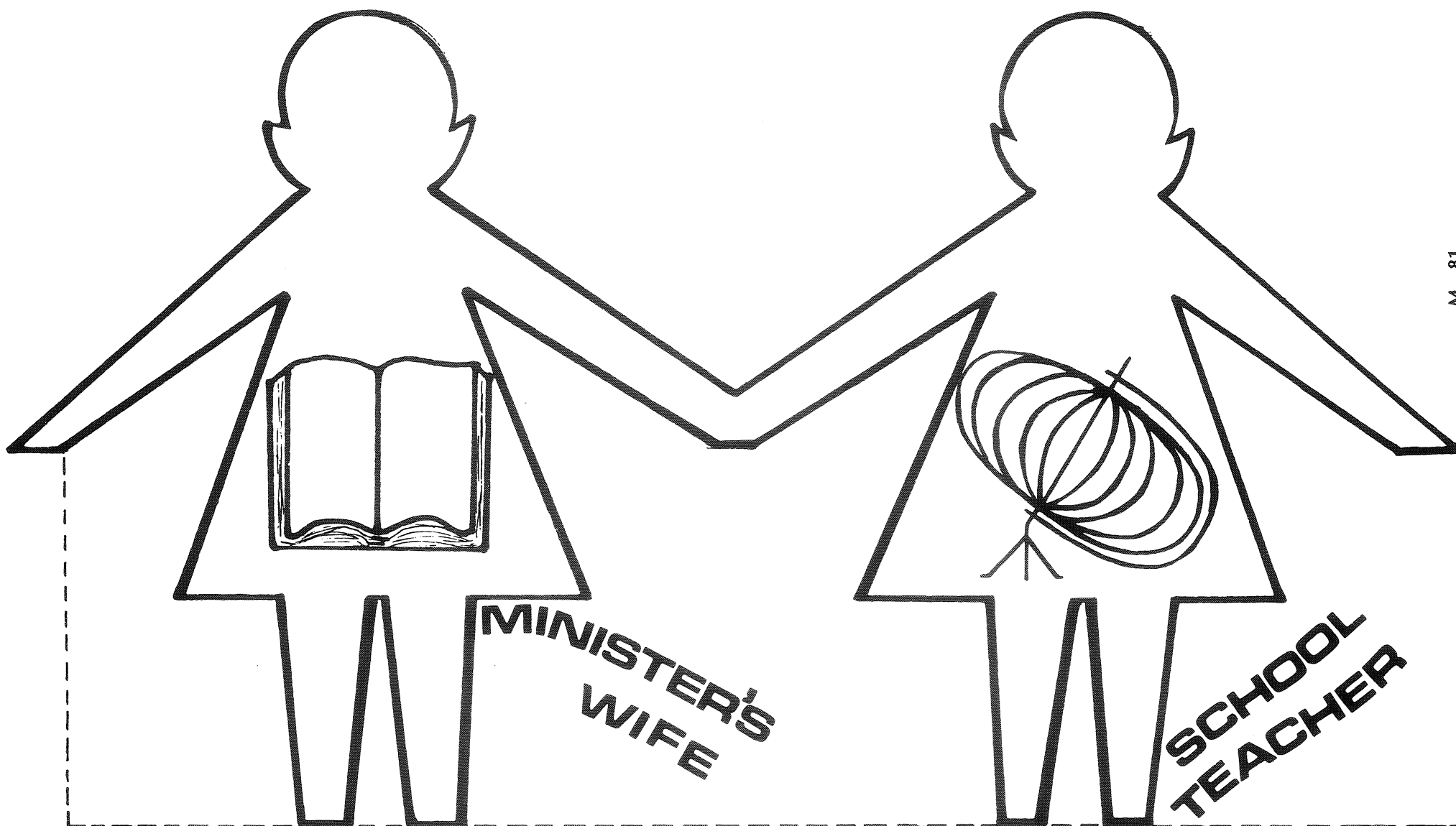
In everything you do, you need to put God first and He will lead you to work for Him and to tell others about Him. Find Proverbs 3:6 in your Bible **(Read Proverbs 3:6)**. When you ask God to lead you, to show you what to do, He will show you. One thing you can be sure of, God is with you when you are doing what He wants you to do wherever it may be in the world. He may lead you someday to a far away place **(Display M-P and “a far away place”)** or right where you are! **(Display “or right where you are!”)** He knows where He can use you best and will be with you at that time and place. He is with you right now.

Find Matthew 28 in your Bible **(Read Matthew 28:18-20)**. Jesus spoke these words to his disciples (His church at that time) just before He went back to heaven. He would not be with them in body, but would be with them through the Holy Spirit after He was gone. That promise is still good for you and me today. Remember that wherever you are, you can work for the Lord, you can tell others about Jesus — you can be a missionary, too.

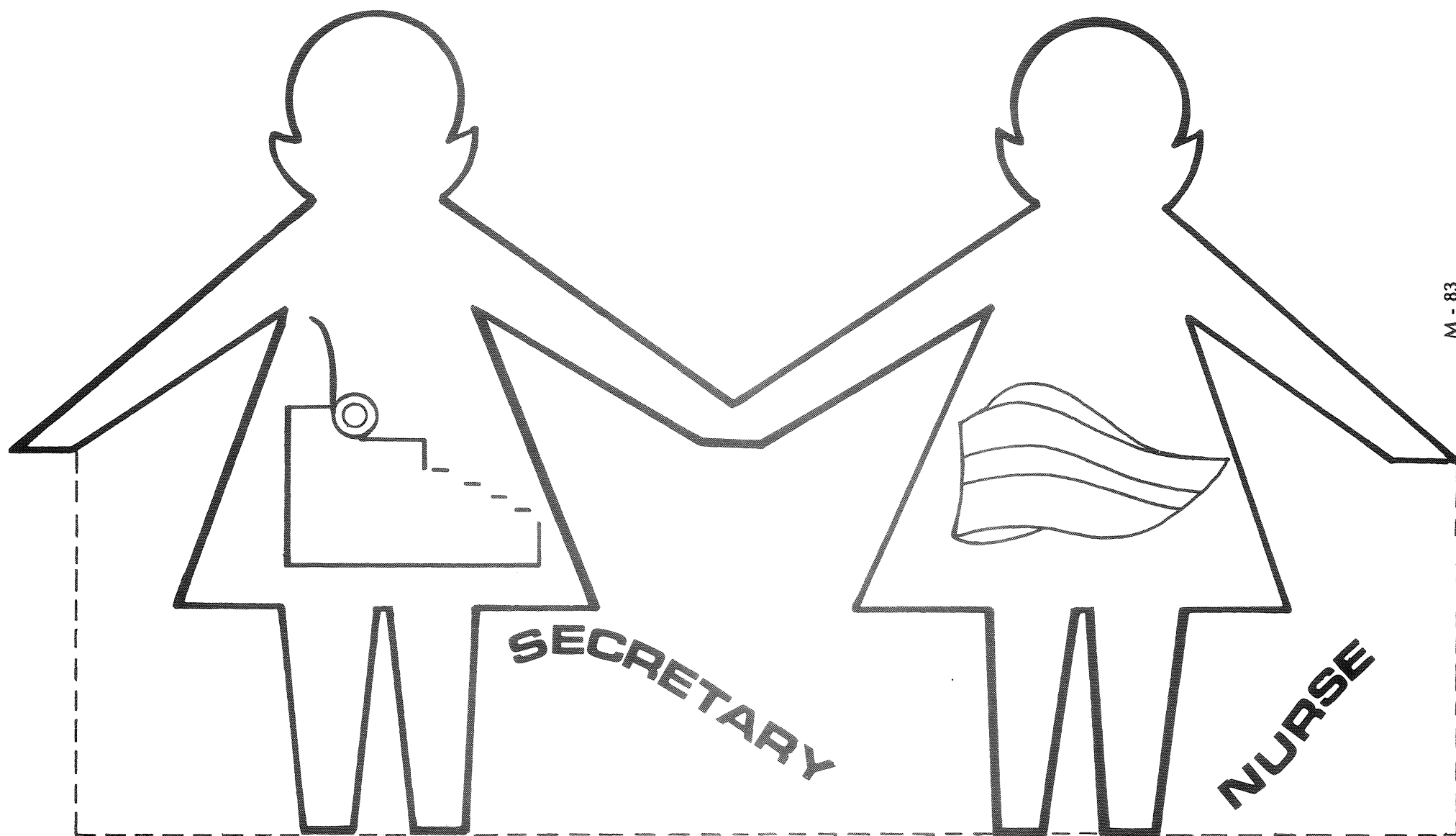
Complete the remaining questions in the lesson book with the class.

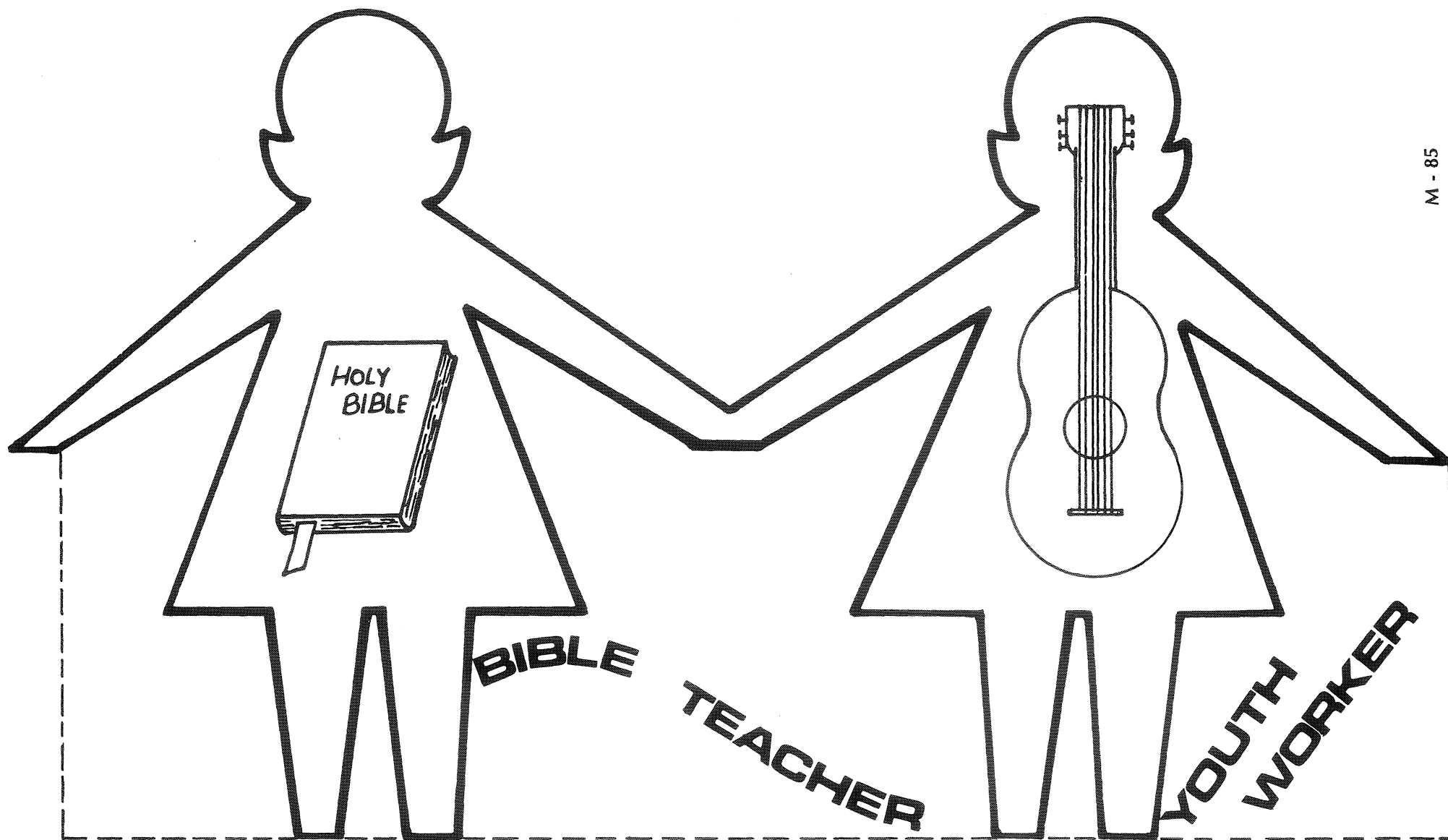




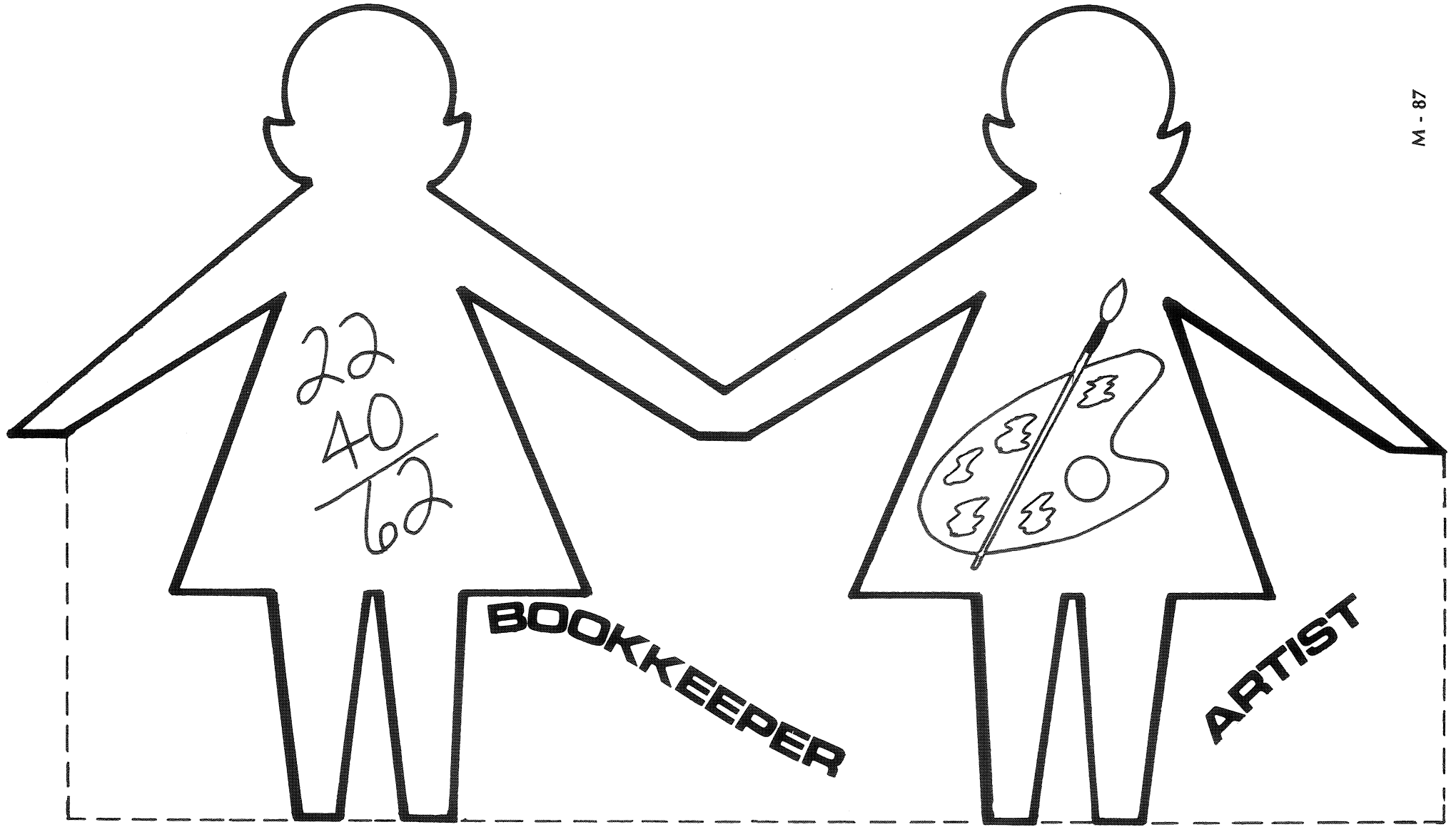


Picture M - I

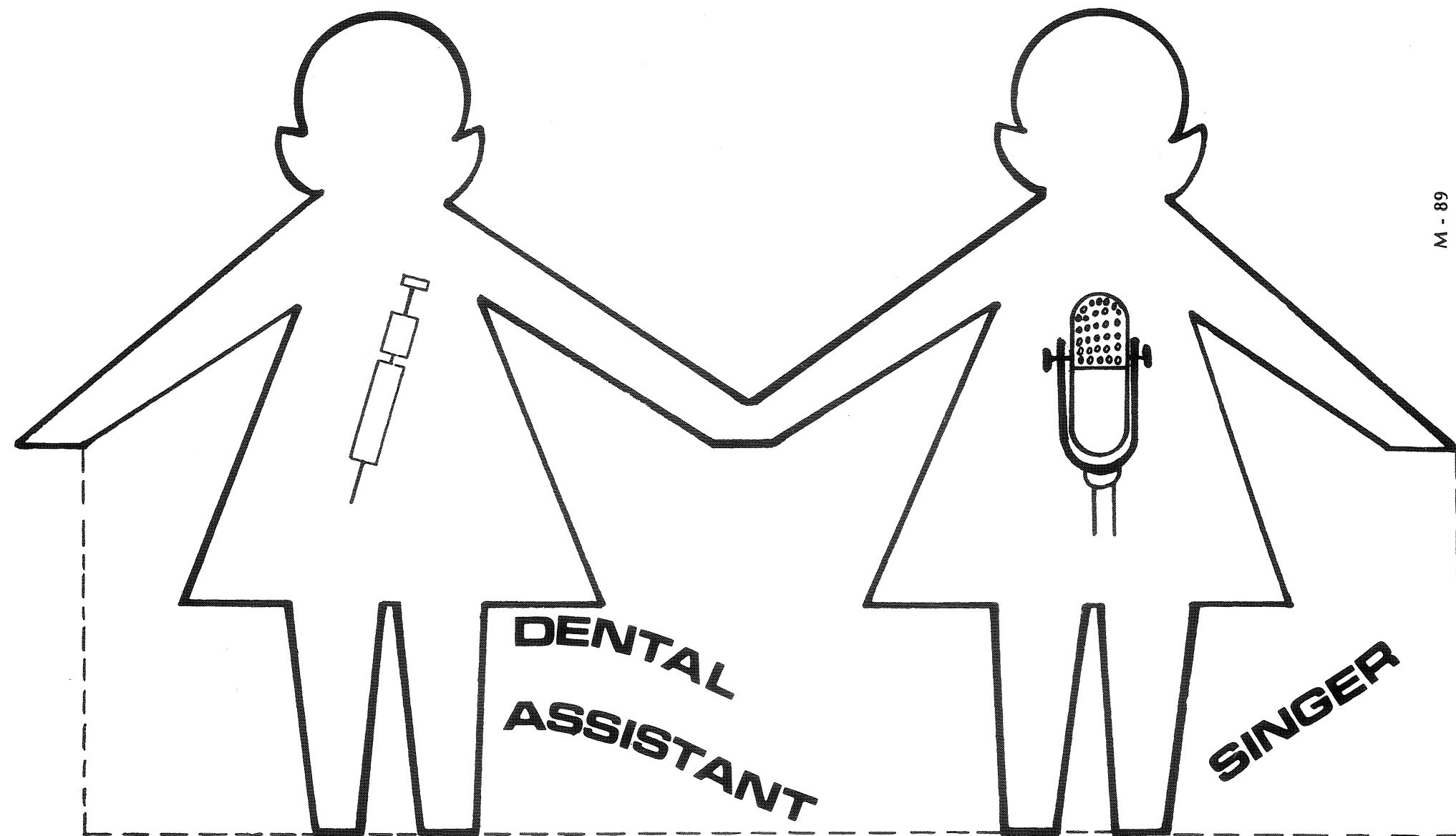




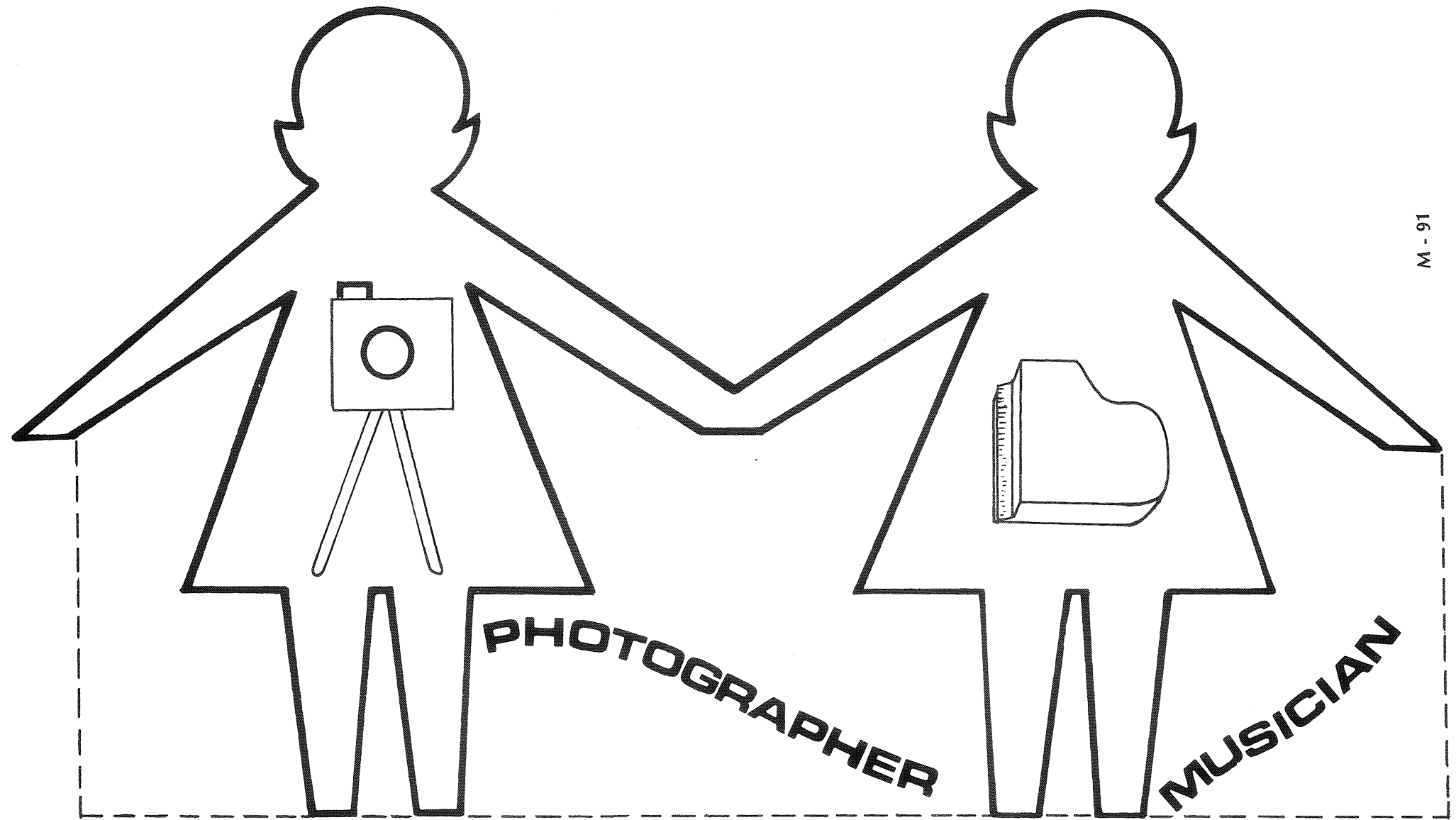
Picture M - K



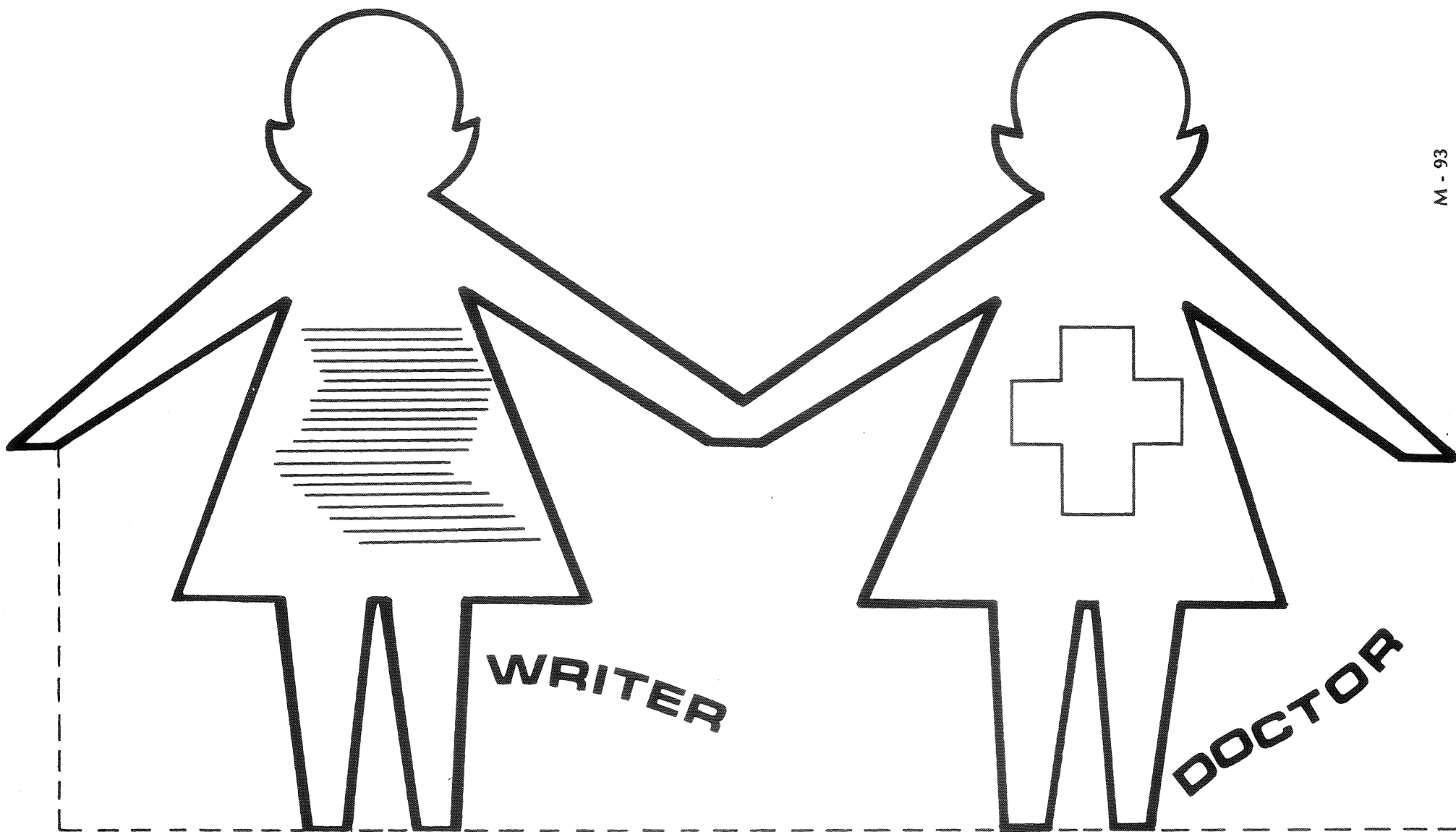
Picture M - L



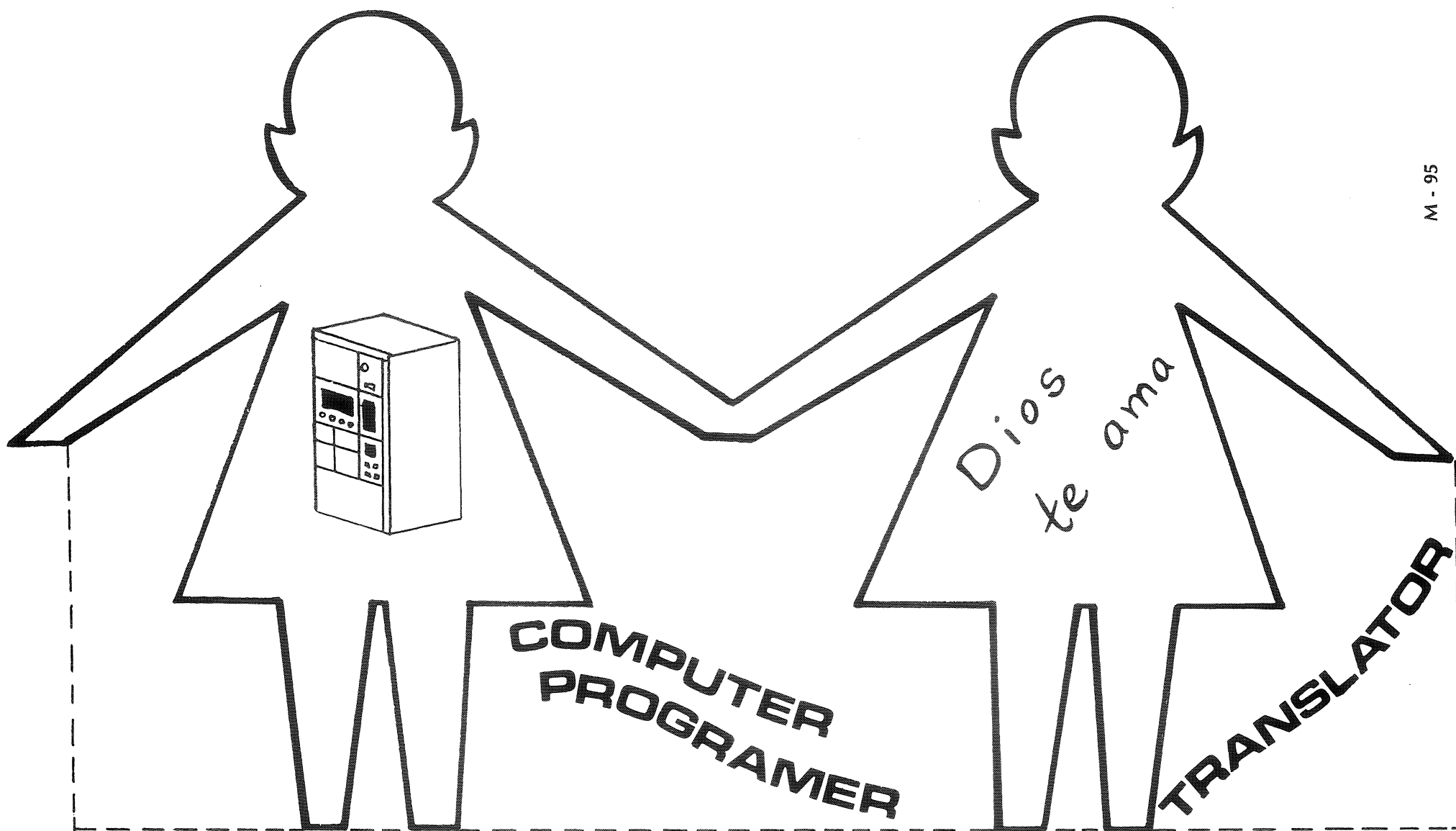
Picture M - M



Picture M - N



Picture M - O



Picture M - P

...A FAR OFF PLACE

GO AND TEACH ALL NATIONS...

...OR RIGHT WHERE

YOU
ARE!

WHERE?

RIGHT WHERE
YOU ARE!

LEARN
TO LOVE
PEOPLE.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS
WHAT YOU KNOW
ABOUT THE LORD.

WORK HARD AT
SCHOOL. GET A GOOD
EDUCATION.

HOW DO YOU START?

GIVE YOUR HEART
TO GOD.

BE KIND.

CARE ABOUT OTHERS.
MAKE FRIENDS.

WHEN YOU ARE READY,
GOD WILL PICK THE
PLACE IN HIS WORLD
FOR YOU TO WORK

FOR
HIM...

INVITE
THEM TO
CHURCH