

**Materials I Need:**

**Key for symbols:**

- This symbol represents ideas that can be used for two-year-olds through kindergarten. Please remember to slow way down for two-year-olds and keep the pace moving for five-year-olds.
- ② This symbol represents ideas that can be used for two- and three-year-olds.
- ④ This symbol represents ideas that are best used for four-year-olds through kindergarten.

**Memory Verse:**

**1 Corinthians 8:9: Be careful that your freedom does not become a stumbling block.**

**Hook:**

- Teacher Tip:** The frogs that appear in the Bible Adventure pictures are there for your enjoyment. They are a useful teaching tool when you review pictures at **Hook** centers, and the children can view the frog up close and see his facial expressions. During such reviews, ask the children what they think the frog is doing or thinking. Why would the frog think that? What was the frog afraid of? Do you remember what will happen next?
- Neighborhood Market Center:** Bring in some canned goods, cake mixes, and other grocery store items. Set up a corner of the room as a store with a cash register, grocery store bags, and some play money. Some pictures of meat can be taped or glued to meat trays to serve as meat. Show the children how to enter the store, choose something to buy, pay for it, put it in a bag, and leave. "In today's Bible Adventure, the Corinthian Gentiles bought meat at the temple market that had been offered to bad idols. When they heard about Jesus and believed the gospel message, they didn't want to eat the meat sold at the temple market. The food we buy at the grocery store or neighborhood market is good for us to eat."
- Dress-up Center:** Provide different types of clothes and hats for boys and girls. Encourage them to dress up and tell you who they are or where they came from. "In today's Bible Adventure, the Corinthian Christians came from different family traditions and ways of doing things. Paul told them to love each other even though they didn't act or look like each other."
- Building Man-Made Idols:** For variety, borrow some building blocks that are not normally in your room. Instruct the children to stack the blocks high so they will make an impressive work of art. "Before the Gentiles came to know and love Jesus, they used to worship idols. Idols are things that are made by men. They are not gods. It is wrong to worship man-made things. Let's build some pretend idols using these blocks. It will be fun to knock them down when we are done."
- "Be Careful Not to Stumble!" Activity:** Bring a wooden ladder (from a bunk bed or playground equipment) and place it flat on the floor. Suggest some of the following activities for your children that are appropriate to their age level: carefully step forward between the rungs, walk along the sides, walk with hands and feet on the rails, walk with hands and feet on the rungs, walk sideways with hands and feet on the rails. "We are being careful to stay balanced on top of the ladder and not stumble or fall down. Our Bible verse today says, 'Be careful that your freedom does not become a stumbling block.' When I hold your hand while you balance on the ladder, I am helping you not to stumble and fall off the ladder."

- 
- Review First Corinthian Story Pictures:** Choose the easiest pictures to explain from the last several lessons and use them at a review table. Talk about the frog in each of the pictures.
  - Family Rules and Preferences Centers:** Following are some stations that children may rotate to and experience different family rules and preferences. This will serve as a review and prepare them for the Bible Adventure today.
    1. **Rules at Home for Bedtime:** Provide dolls, beds, blankets, clothing, and bottles. Pretend to put babies to bed at night while talking about how families can have different bedtimes for their children.
    2. **Rules at Home for Eating:** Set up a kitchen area with plastic food or pictures and utensils for cooking and serving meals. Talk about different eating patterns, including likes and dislikes, times, and activities that surround meals.
    3. **Rules at Home for How We Spend Our Time:** Bring children's Christian video jackets, children's books, TV guide, and cassette tapes. Talk about choosing what to watch or listen to and how families differ in what they choose to do.
    4. **Rules at Home for Chores:** Set out different hats and clothing items for the children to choose to wear to different places they might go. "Sometimes we get to choose what we wear and sometimes Dad and Mom tell us what to wear. People wear different clothes because that is their preference."
    5. **Rules at Home for My Jobs at Home:** Find pictures in catalogs or magazines that represent different jobs the children might have at home like setting the table, picking up toys, brushing teeth, making the bed, etc. Talk about different families having different chores to do depending on where they live (on a farm, in an apartment in the city, in a home in the country, etc.).
  - Develop Your Conscience: (1CO06ECGF8)** Place several pictures of good and bad behaviors on the table and let the children sort them according to ones that would please God and ones that would not. Place Bible stickers on the pictures showing good behaviors. Talk about following God's right rules and parent's right rules. "As we learn about God's right rules from the Bible and as we learn to obey our parent's rules, we begin to know right and wrong in our minds. Then when we are tempted to sin--lie, hit our sister, disobey, or say a bad word--we know in our minds that these sins are wrong. Our consciences help us remember to do what is right."
  - Play Dough Food:** Show the children how to make all kinds of food items from play dough. Make foods that some children might like and other children might not like. Talk about all the foods God provides that He says are okay for us to eat.



### **Book:**

#### **Presentation Ideas -**

- Color the **1CO06ECGF1, 1CO06ECGF2, 1CO06ECGF3, 1CO06ECGF4, 1CO06ECGF5, 1CO06ECGF6, and 1CO06ECGF7** pictures and glue them onto colored construction paper. Show these pictures as you tell the Bible Adventure. Save them for review in future lessons.
- Role Play Presentation:** Have two leaders represent a Jewish Christian and a Gentile Christian. The sad Gentile can hold a plate of meat. Have the Gentile Christian say he doesn't feel right about eating meat that he knows was offered to bad idols. His conscience is bothering him. The Jewish Christian could be reading Paul's letter and say what Paul wrote, "It is all right to eat meat offered to idols." The Gentile Christian can say his conscience still doesn't feel right. The Jewish Christian will then say that he won't eat the meat either. They can leave the area with their arms across each other's shoulders.
- "Ten Little Fingers" Finger Play:**

Hold up ten fingers. Suit your actions to the words. The last position is with hands folded in the lap for the Bible Adventure.

I have ten little fingers and they all belong to me.  
I can make them do things; would you like to see?  
I can close them up tight; I can open them wide.  
I can hold them up high; I can put them at my side.  
I can wave them to and fro,  
And I can hold them just so.

### **Bible Adventure for 2's & 3's-**

*(Show the 1CO06ECGF1 picture.)* Paul was writing his letter to the Corinthian church which had Jewish Christians and Gentile Christians. The Jewish Christians had their own family traditions and ways of doing things. The Gentile Christians had different ways of doing things. Paul wanted to help the Jewish and Gentile Christians grow strong in faith in Jesus and do it without hurting their consciences.

*(Show the 1CO06ECGF2 picture.)* God has given each person a conscience. Our conscience is what lets us know if something is right or wrong. Our conscience will make us feel guilty if we are doing something that is wrong. When we sin, our conscience feels guilty. The Bible tells us which things are sins.

*(Show the 1CO06ECGF4 picture.)* There were Gentiles in the Corinthian church who used to worship idols at the idol temple. Paul wrote, "We know that idols are not the one, true God, and it is wrong to worship and pray to idols. Idols are not alive and have no power to help people. It is wrong to give offerings of meat to idols." But before some of the Gentiles became Christians and came to love Jesus, they used to worship at the idol temple. They would offer their best meat and pray to the idols at the temple.

*(Show the 1CO06ECGF6 picture.)* Paul wanted the new Gentile Christians to know that the meat offered to idols was not bad meat. It would not be a sin to buy this meat or to eat it. Paul knew that some Gentiles who used to worship the idols but now loved Jesus might not feel right in their conscience about going back to the idol temple to buy meat. The Gentile Christian might feel guilty because he used to worship those bad idols. If his conscience bothered him and he thought it was a sin, he should not eat that meat.

*(Show the 1CO06ECGF7 picture.)* Paul told the Corinthian Christians they should love one another. They were not to be selfish and do whatever they wanted. They were to be careful not to cause another Christian to sin by what they were doing. If the Gentile Christian felt bad about buying meat at the idol temple, then his friend, the Jewish Christian, should not buy it either. Paul told the Corinthian Christians--Jews and Gentiles--to help each other grow strong in their faith and obedience to Christ. They were to help each other keep their consciences clean.

**Prayer:** I want to have a clean conscience and help other Christians to have clean consciences. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

### **Bible Adventure for 4's, 5's & K-**

*(Show the 1CO06ECGF1 picture.)* Paul was writing his letter to the Corinthian church which had people of different nationalities and backgrounds in it. Each nationality had its own family traditions and ways of doing things. Paul wanted to help each person grow strong in faith in Jesus without hurting their consciences.

*(Show the 1CO06ECGF2 picture.)* God has given each person a conscience. Our conscience is what lets us know if something is right or wrong. Our conscience will make us feel guilty and afraid of being punished if we are doing something that is wrong. When we sin, our conscience feels guilty and lets us know we need to repent. The Bible tells us all the things that are sin—the things that will always hurt our consciences.

*(Show the 1CO06ECGF3 picture.)* Paul said, "There are other things people do that God does not say are sinful but that might hurt our consciences. For instance, for the Jewish Christian who grew up in a home that thought it was a sin to eat certain kinds of meat, it might bother his conscience to eat pork. God tells us there is nothing wrong with eating pork, but if it hurts a person's conscience, the right and loving thing is to stop doing it."

*(Show the 1CO06ECGF4 picture.)* There were Gentiles in the Corinthian church who used to worship idols at the idol temple. Paul wrote, "We know that idols are not gods, and it is wrong to worship and pray to idols. Idols are not alive and have no power to help people. It is wrong to give offerings to idols."

*(Show the 1CO06ECGF5 picture.)* The Gentiles who worshiped idols took their best meat as an offering to the idol temple. They always brought too much meat, so there was extra for the temple priests to sell at the temple market (like a grocery store in Corinth). People would go to the temple market to buy the best meat.

Paul wrote, "The meat that is offered to idols as an offering is not bad meat. There is nothing wrong with it. It is not a sin to buy and eat this meat."

*(Show the 1CO06ECGF6 picture.)* But Paul said, "A Gentile who used to worship this idol but now is a Christian may not feel right in his conscience about going back to the idol temple to buy meat. It may make him feel guilty because he used to worship that very same idol. If his conscience bothers him, he should not eat that meat."

(Show the 1CO06ECGF7 picture.) Paul told the Corinthian Christians, “You should love each other no matter what different family backgrounds you have. Be careful not to cause another Christian to stumble into sin by what you do. If your buying meat at the idol temple makes a new Christian want to do something that is wrong for him or makes him feel guilty, then you should stop doing it, too. Don’t do anything that would encourage another Christian’s conscience to feel guilty or hurt his faith.”

Paul said, “If you really love your Christian brother, you will not be selfish and do whatever you want to do. You will do the things that help other Christians grow strong in faith and obedience. You will not do anything that hurts his conscience or encourages him to do anything wrong.”

God has given each of us a conscience that will bother us if we do something that is wrong for us. The Bible tells us the sins that will hurt our consciences, but you also have family rules you need to obey. If you disobey a family rule, your conscience will bother you. You will have that “uh-oh” feeling that you get when you know you have done something wrong. God wants us to keep our consciences clean and free. We do that by obeying our parents and repenting when we disobey.

**Prayer:** Dear God, I want to have a clean conscience and help other Christians to keep their consciences clean. Help me not do anything that would hurt another person’s faith in You. In Jesus’ name I pray, amen.

### Aim Questions

#### Aim Questions for 2’s & 3’s:

1. **What did Paul say each of us has that lets us know if we are doing something wrong?** (*A conscience.*)
2. **What bad things did the Gentiles worship before they knew about Jesus?** (*Idols.*)
3. **In Paul’s letter to the Corinthians, who did he want to grow strong in their faith and obedience to Christ?** (*Jewish and Gentile Christians.*)

#### Aim Questions for 4’s & 5’s:

1. **What is our conscience?** (*It is what lets us know if something is right or wrong for us.*)
2. **Does it hurt our conscience when we sin?** (*Yes. We feel guilty and afraid of being punished.*)
3. **Were some Corinthian Christians causing other Christians to stumble into sin by eating meat that had been offered to idols?** (*Yes. It bothered some people’s consciences if they were going to the idol temple to buy meat.*)
4. **What does Paul say we should do when our conscience feels guilty or afraid?** (*Repent and stop doing things that hurt our own conscience or might bother another Christian’s conscience.*)



### Look:

- Aim Questions:** Place the questions under different “idols” that children might like such as a toy car, nice doll, cookies, etc. When asking for a question, name the item (idol) that has the correct question under it. “What is an idol? It is something we love more than Jesus. The items used in the Aim Questions don’t have to be idols. Do we love Jesus more than these things?”
- Snack Suggestion:** Serve ham or barbecued pork with bread or crackers. “Some of the Gentile Christians didn’t want to eat meat because it was sold at the idol temple. Some of the Jewish Christians did not want to eat pork. Paul wrote his letter to tell them it was all right to eat meat.”
- Snack:** Each table could be a different family unit and have a different snack (trail mix, animal cookies, cheese and crackers, fruit and cheese, popcorn, bologna). Talk about God telling us that all food is okay to eat, but families have different preferences. Let each table make up their own family rules for behavior, bedtime, chores, TV time, etc. The children could even make up funny rules for table behavior like only picking up food with a thumb and first finger and saying “gracias” instead of “thank you.” If someone does something wrong, you can say “uh-oh”!
- Memory Verse Review:** Let children glue magazine pictures of all different kinds of foods on a piece of butcher paper while singing the verse together. Explain that if someone thinks it is wrong to do something and we do it in front of them, then we can cause them to stumble or fall in their faith. It might mean eating a certain kind of food or following a rule that isn’t in the Bible. Then tape the butcher paper with food pictures on it to the floor. Sing the verse together while walking around it in a circle. The children nearest the pictures when you say “stumbling block” get to fall or pretend to stumble over the pictures.

- 
- Bothersome Bacon Activity Page: (1CO06ECGF3)** Let the children color their 1CO06ECGF7 pictures and glue Bac-O's to the meat. Talk about what was happening in Corinth and what things we might do to keep from bothering our friend's conscience.
- Guilty Conscience to Free Conscience: (1CO06ECGF9)** There are three pictures on this page which show people with consciences that are bothering them. Talk about what is happening in these pictures and how the people's consciences stopped bothering them. On the children's blank faces, draw smiles to show that the looks on their faces change when they do the right thing.
- "Clean Conscience" Booklet: (1CO06ECGF10)** Copy the GF10 page and fold it into fourths to make a booklet. As the children color the children's shirts to match their own, talk about what kinds of things might bother their consciences (give them that "uh-oh" feeling of guilt and fear). Let the children glue bacon bits on the meat and a penny on the money bag as you talk about what is happening to the man's conscience. Explain to the children that there are some things we don't do because it might hurt someone else's conscience or our own. Sing the chorus of "You Are Free" (see Song section).
- "Develop Your Conscience" Match Game: (1CO06ECGF8)** Color and cut apart two sets of the GF8 pictures. Talk about how our conscience develops as we learn right and wrong from God in the Bible and from our parents. "Which pictures show wrong behavior and which ones show right behavior?" Place two sets of the good behavior pictures face down on the table and try to turn up matching pictures.
- What Is Your Family Tradition?** "A family tradition is something you and your family like to do together regularly." Spread out the children in a large open area and give suggestions of what some families like to do together. Have the children copy the leader in the motions for that "tradition." Call out different individuals' names as to what you think their family likes to do. Some action activities follow.
- Go on airplane rides. (Spread arms and fly around the room.)
  - Go horseback riding. (Gallop.)
  - Go biking. (On back with feet in air and pedaling.)
  - Eat together. (Eating motions and rubbing a full tummy.)
  - Go swimming. (Crawling on floor on stomach.)
  - Pray. (On knees with hands folded.)
  - Play ball. (Pretend to throw and catch.)
  - Go skating. (Glide feet.)
  - Take naps. (Lie down and snore.)
- Allow the older children to suggest other things they do with their families and see if you can make an action for that family "tradition."
- "Rover, Rover, Where's Your Bone?" Game:** Choose one child ("Rover") to sit on a chair with his back to the class. Place a dog bone under his chair and have him cover his eyes. Quietly choose one person from the class to sneak up and steal the bone. Everyone sits with crossed legs while the class chants, "Rover, Rover, where's your bone? Someone took it from your home." "Rover" turns around and looks at the class and gets three chances to guess who took his bone. Repeat as interest allows. After playing the game, ask the class if it is wrong to steal. (Yes.) Did their conscience feel bad when they were chosen to steal the bone? (No.) Why not? (It was a game and was okay to take the bone.) When would their conscience feel bad about stealing? (When they took something that did not belong to them and kept it.)
- Following Your Rules Not Mine:** "We don't want to hurt our Christian friends by being selfish and having things our own way. When we are with others, we try to help and please them." Let a child take the class to his pretend home and help them play a game his way. Follow the Leader, Mother May I, Freeze, and Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes would be possible games to play with a different twist. Have some possible silly ideas to suggest to the children.
- "Helping Our Friends" Roller Ball:** Have the children sit in a circle on the floor with their legs out in front of them to play roller ball. When they roll the ball to a person across from them, they say, "I want to help \_\_\_\_." Keep the ball moving quickly. Talk about helping others meaning that we think of them first and don't do something that would hurt them.

## Songs:

**1 Corinthians 8:9 Memory Verse Song** (tune: "Pop Goes the Weasel")

First Corinthians eight, nine.  
"Be careful that your freedom  
Does not become a stumbling block."  
First Corinthians eight, nine.

**My God Is So Great (with revisions)**

My God is so great, so strong, and so mighty;  
There's nothing my God cannot do! (Clap, clap.)  
My God is so great, so strong, and so mighty;  
There's nothing my God cannot do! (Clap, clap.)  
The Gentiles are His; the Jewish are His;  
Our conscience His handiwork, too.  
My God is so great, so strong, and so mighty;  
There's nothing my God cannot do! For you!

**You Are Free** (tune: "It's A Small World")

You are free to do many things you like.  
These are not called sins—neither wrong nor right.  
But if your freedom causes your brother to sin,  
Walk away! Give in!

**(Chorus)**

Keep your conscience free and clean.  
Keep your conscience free and clean.  
Keep your conscience free and clean.  
Keep your conscience clean.



## Took:

**"Obeying My Parents" Hat: (1CO06ECGF11)** Materials needed: 10 1/4 inch paper plate for each child, GF11 picture copied on cardstock for each child, crepe paper streamers in various colors, colored markers, stapler, scissors, glue sticks. Cut out the center of the paper plate to fit the child's head (the plate fits on the head upside down). Have the children color the picture with the markers. For the girls, have them color the bottom side of the plate rim with the markers and choose a favorite colored streamer. Staple the two streamers to the paper plate and cover the staples with a crepe paper bow. At the center of the bow, paste or staple the picture. For the boys, color the top side rim of the paper plate. Staple the picture on the outside edge of the rim so the picture hangs down on the forehead similar to a fireman's badge. The boys may choose whether to include the crepe paper streamers on their hats or not.

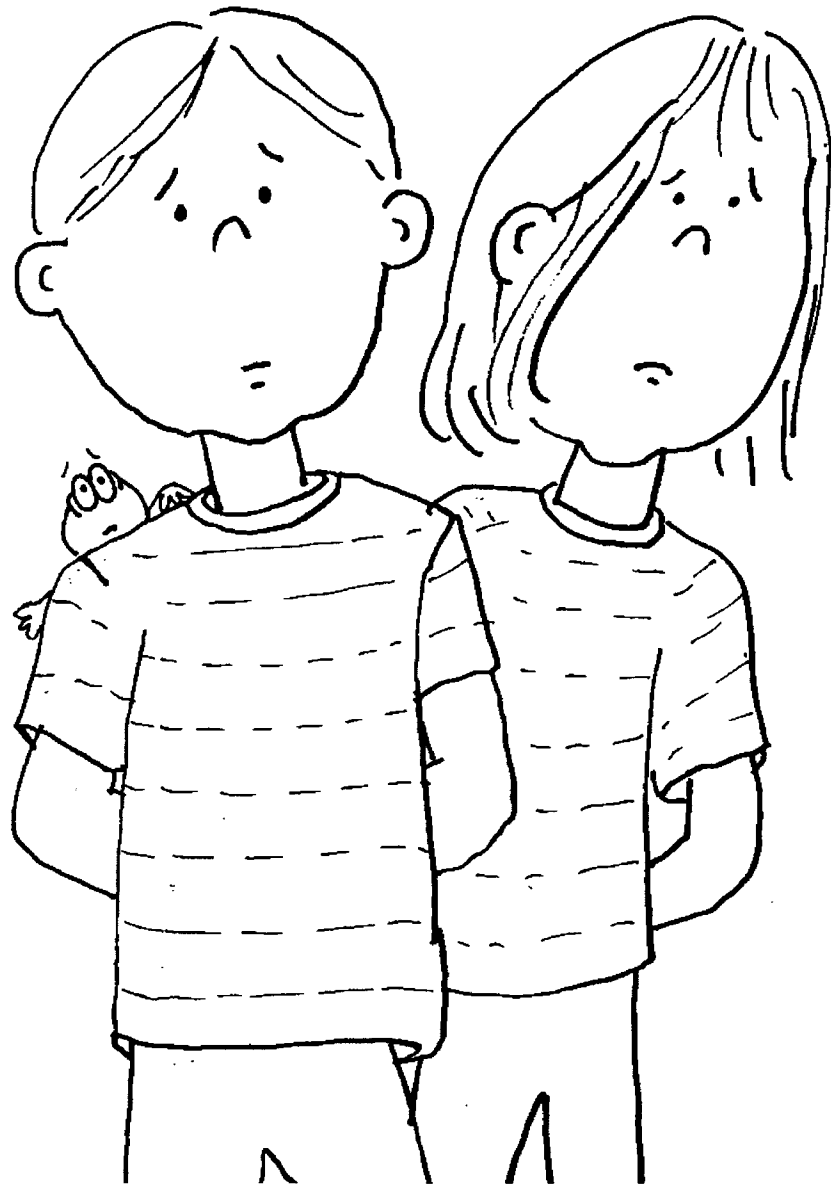
**Considerate of Others: (1CO06ECGF12)** Let the children color the page and then circle the pictures that show a child considering others before himself.

**Happy Sad Face Sticker Pictures: (1CO06ECGF8 and 1CO06ECGF13)** Copy the GF13 page of happy and sad faces on Laser Labels #5160. Give each child several stickers of each face. Talk about the good and bad behaviors in the pictures. "When we know what God considers a sin, we develop our conscience; and our minds tell us what is wrong for us to do." Color the pictures and then place the happy or sad face stickers on the appropriate pictures.

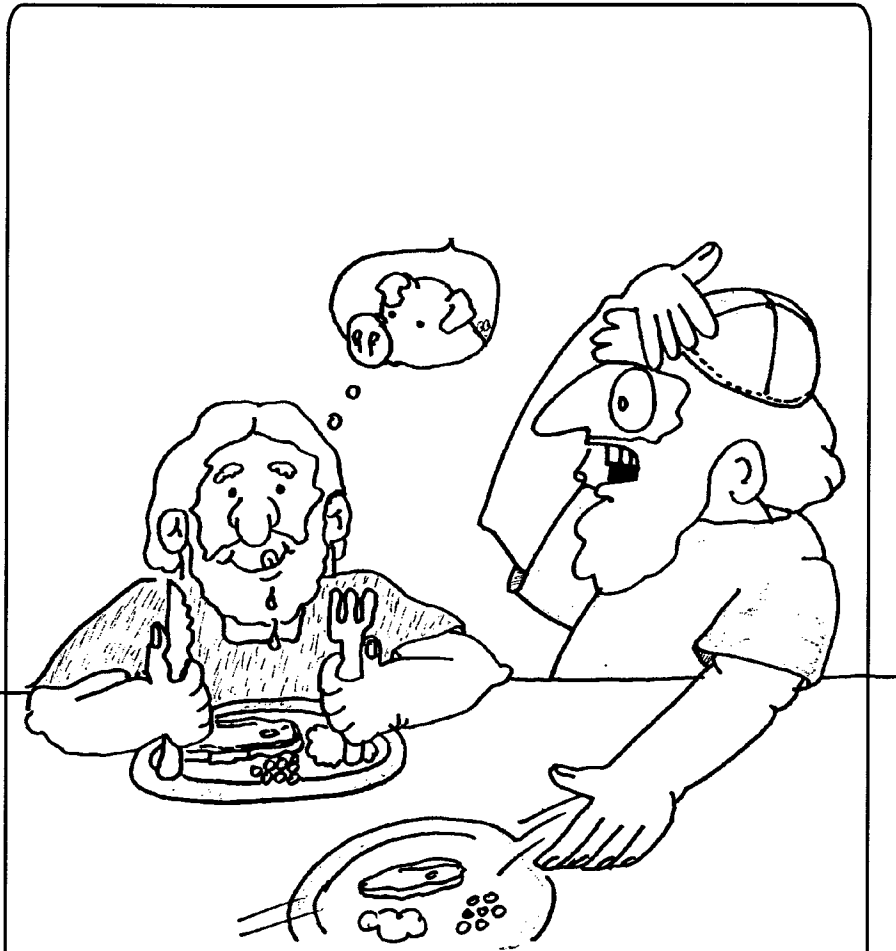
**Preschool Page for Parents: (1CO06ECP PP)** Send a page home with each child, encouraging parents to reinforce the Bible truths at home. Spend a few minutes before the children go home creatively reviewing the song and memory verse.



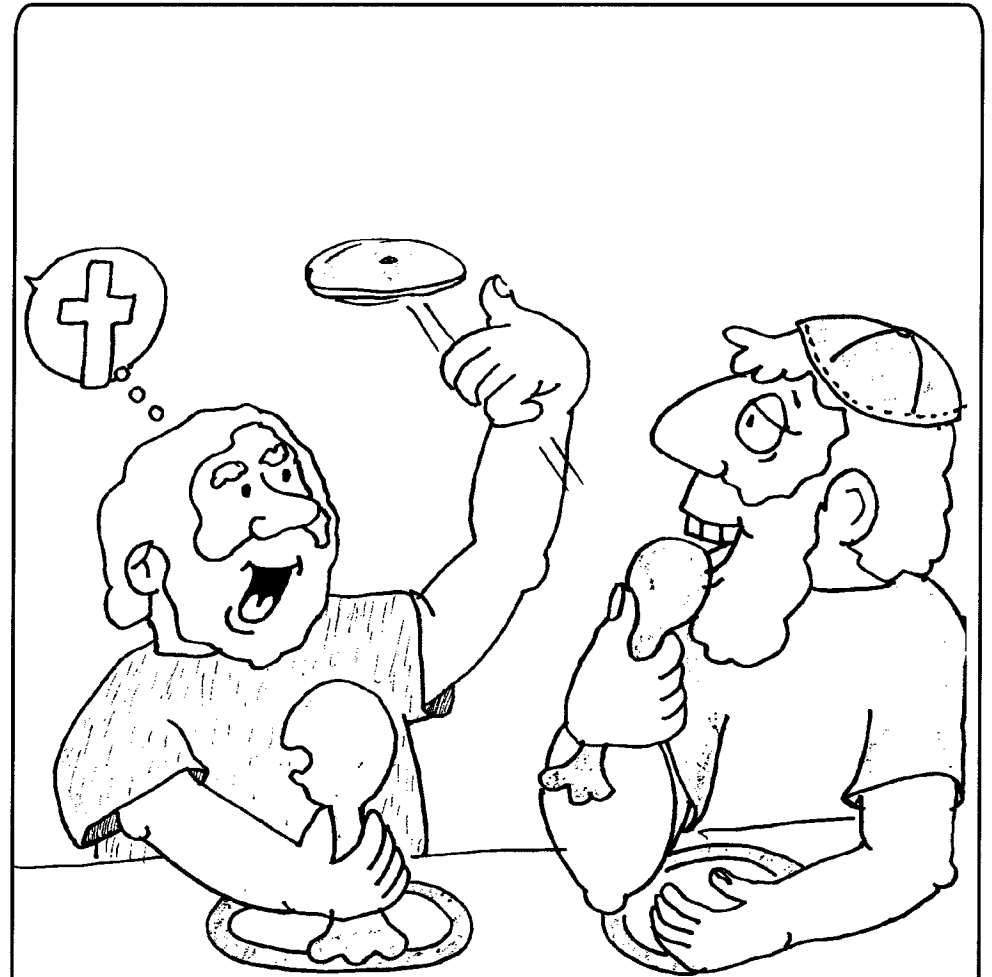
The Christians in the Corinthian church had different family traditions.



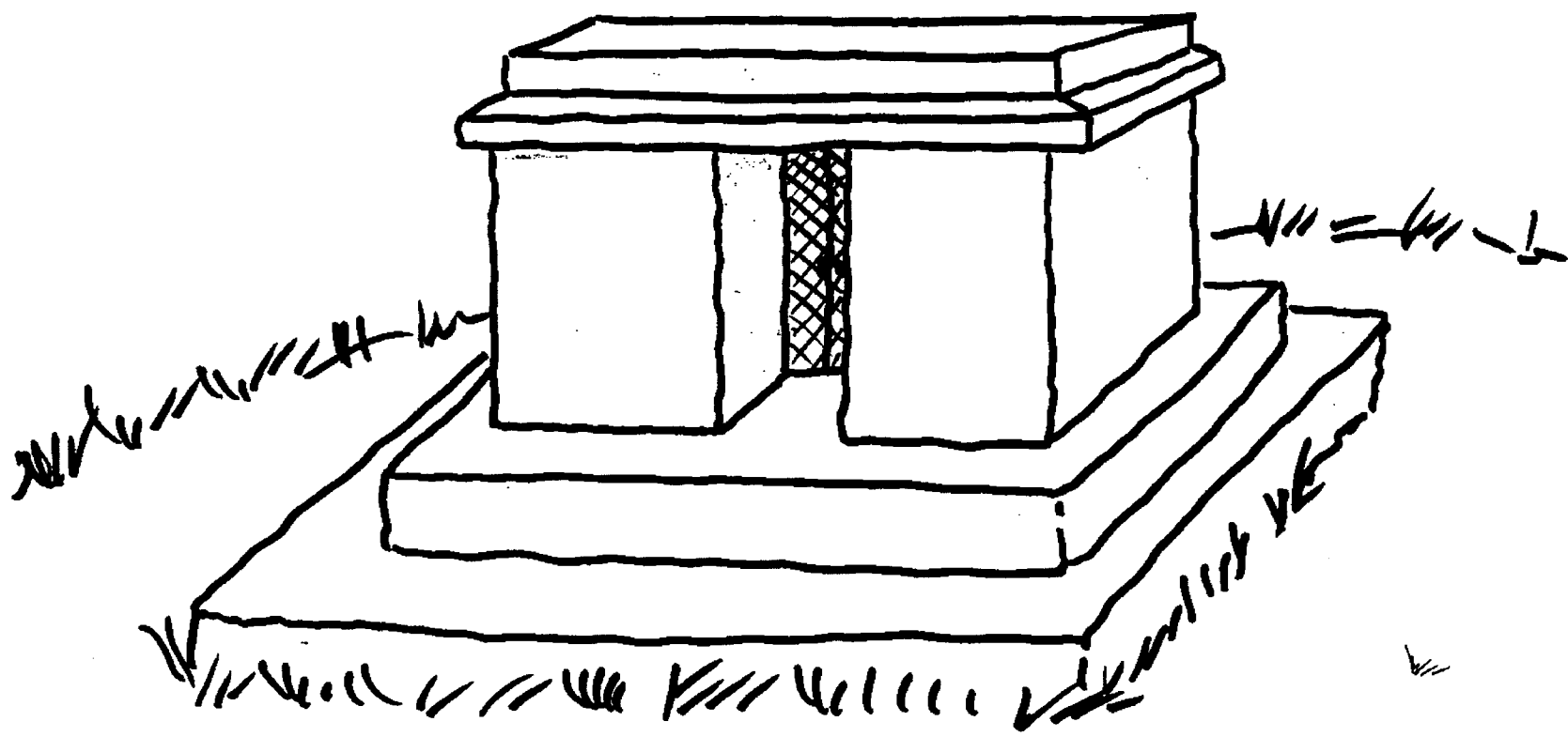
Each person has a conscience that lets him know  
when he has done something wrong.



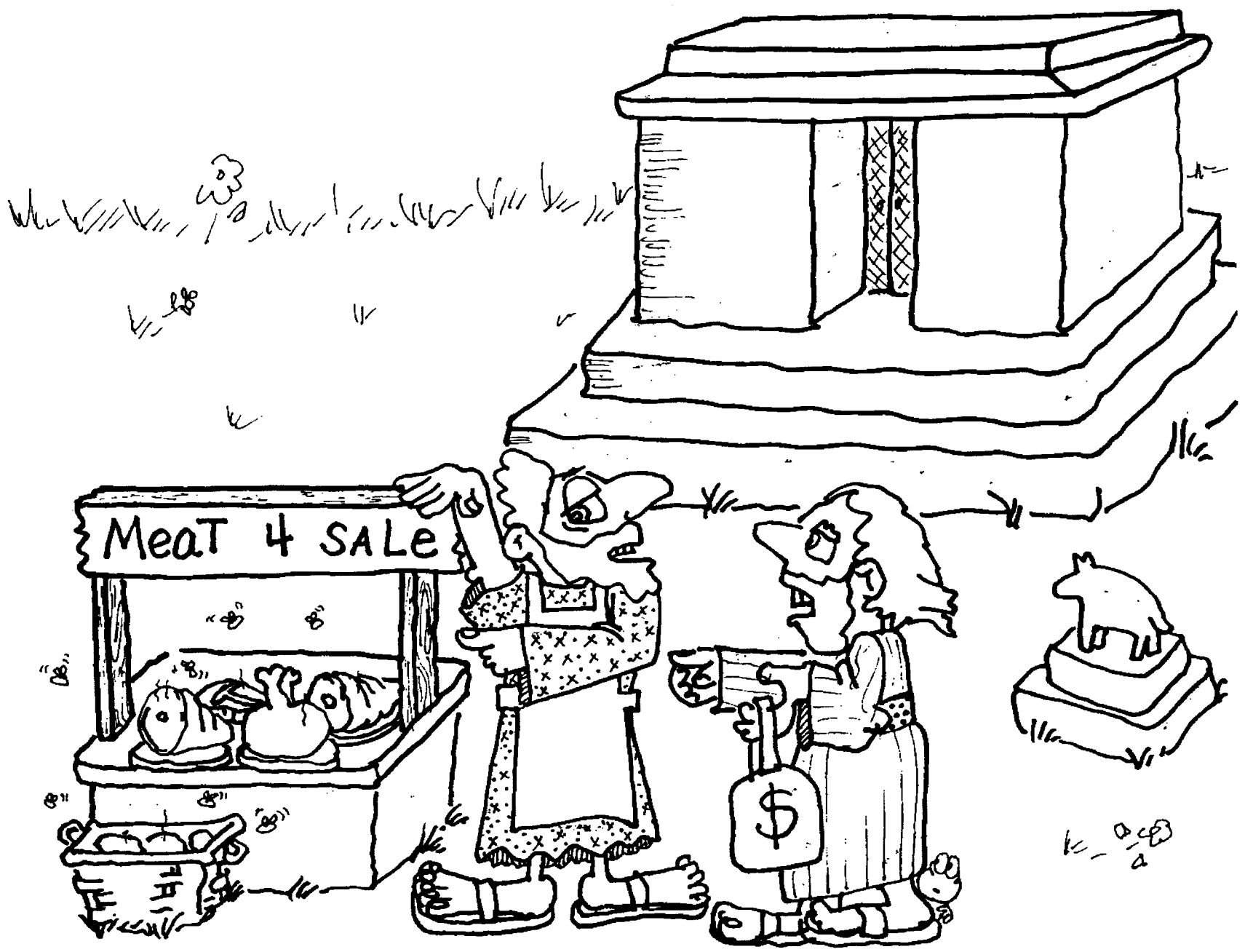
A Gentile might hurt a Jewish Christian's conscience if he eats certain kinds of meats.



Stop doing anything that hurts another Christian's conscience.

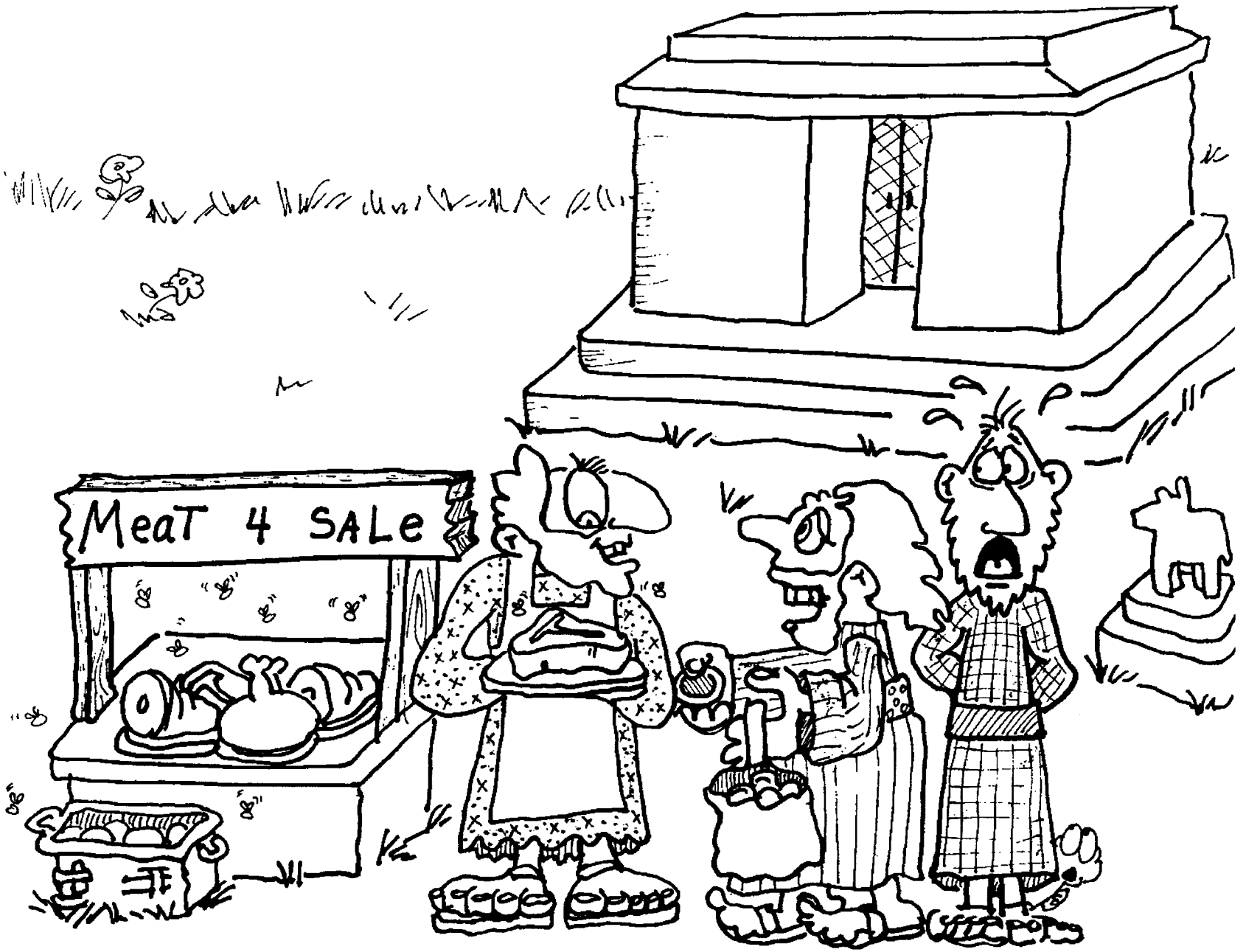


Gentiles worshiped idols in Corinth. God says, "Do not worship idols."

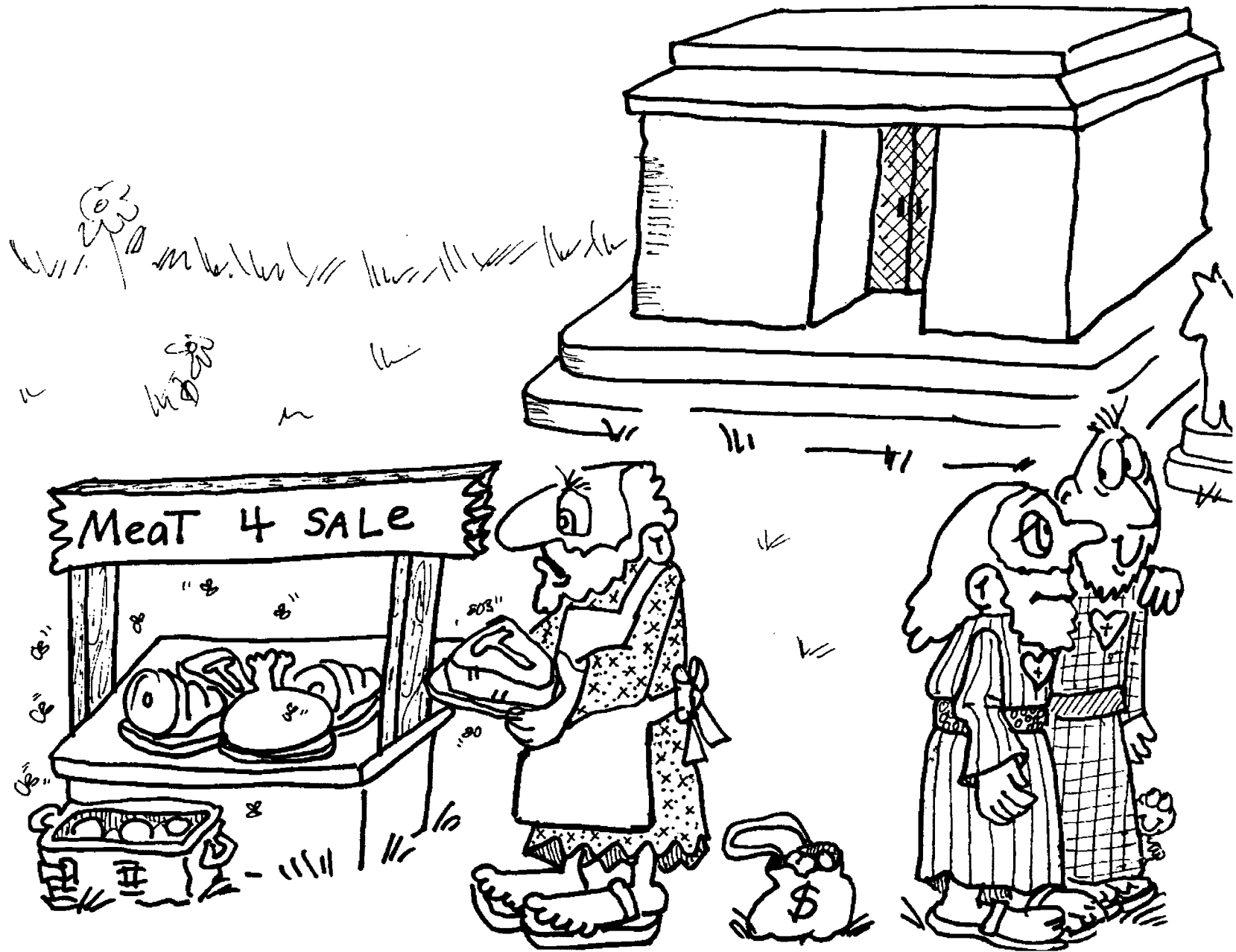


Paul said, "There is nothing wrong with buying meat at the idol temple."

Handwritten scribbles and lines at the top left of the page.

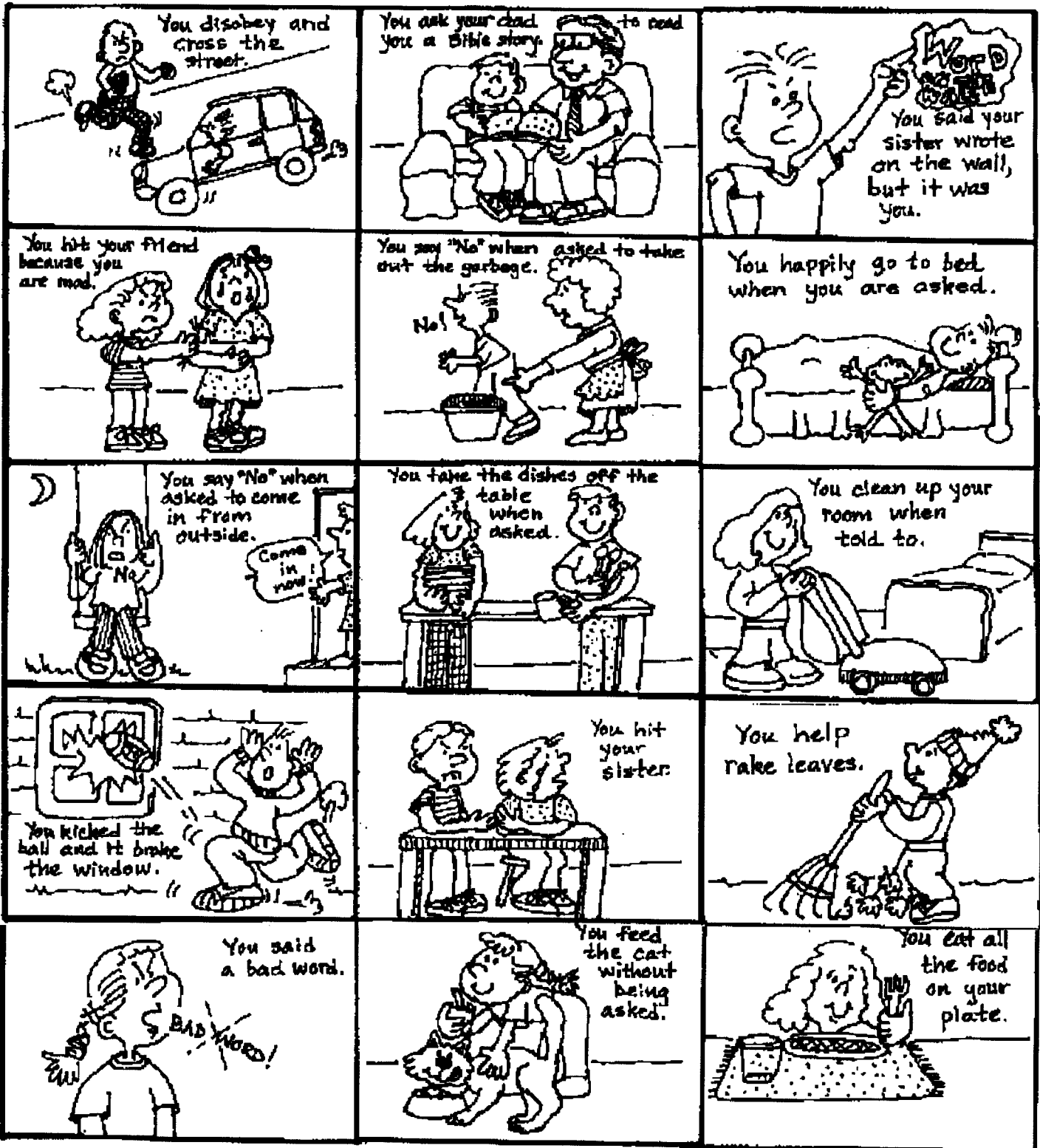


Paul said, "Don't buy meat at the idol temple if it hurts someone's conscience."



Paul said, "Stop doing anything that hurts another Christian's conscience."

# Good and Bad Behaviors



Be careful that your freedom does not become a stumbling block.

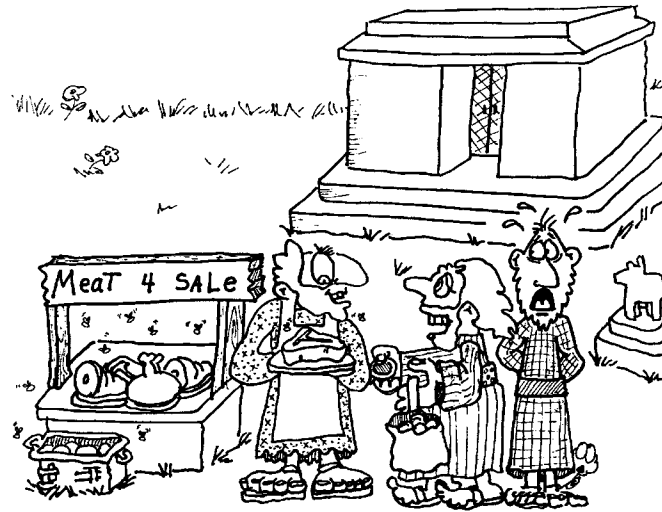
1 Corinthians 8:9



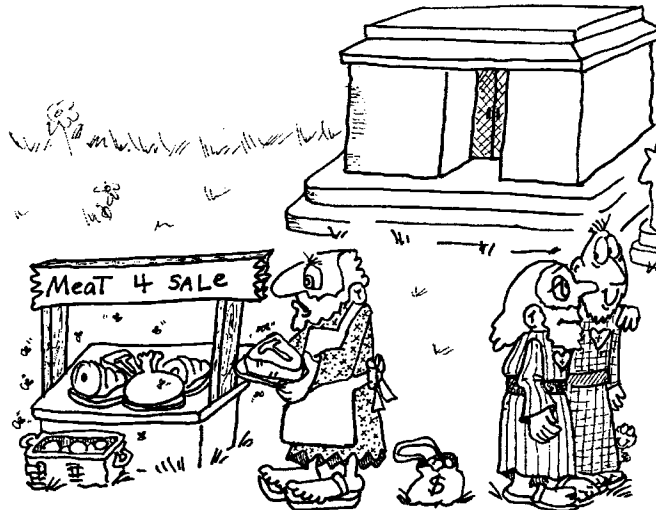
Find the Jewish Christian whose conscience is bothered by the Gentile eating pork.



Which Christians in this picture have a clean conscience?



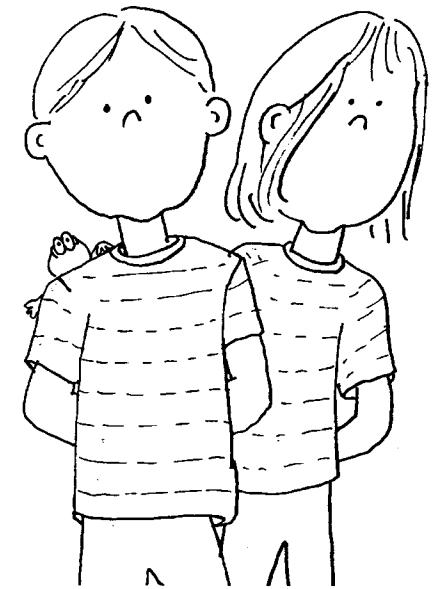
Find the Gentile Christian whose conscience is bothered by another Christian buying meat at the idol temple.



Who stopped doing something that hurt another Christian's conscience?



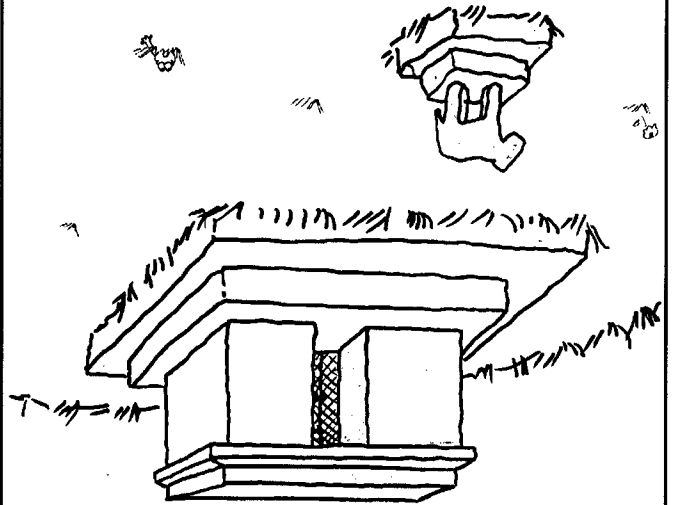
Which children do not look like they have a clean conscience?



Draw happy faces to show the children's clean consciences.

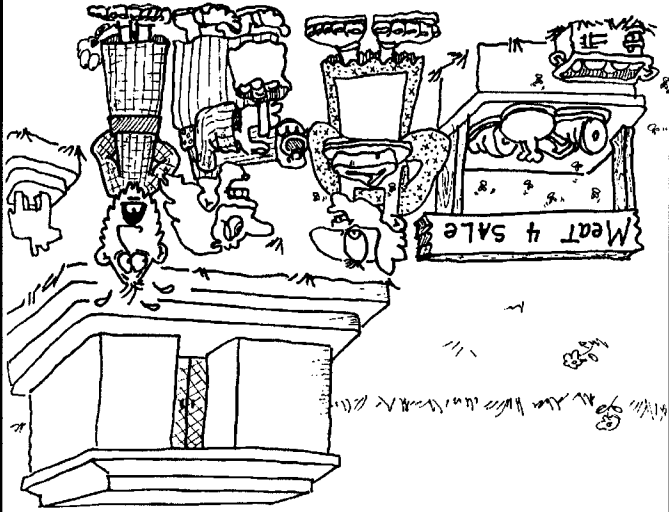
2.

Gentiles worshiped idols in Corinth.  
"Do not worship idols," God says.

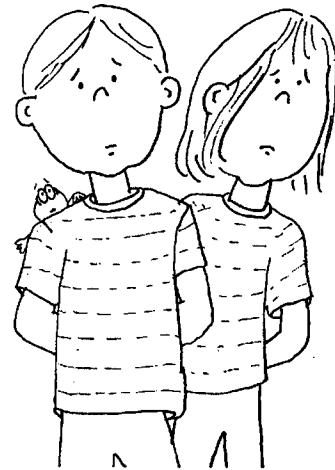


3.

Paul said, "Do not buy meat at the idol temple if it hurts someone's conscience."



Keep your  
conscience clean!

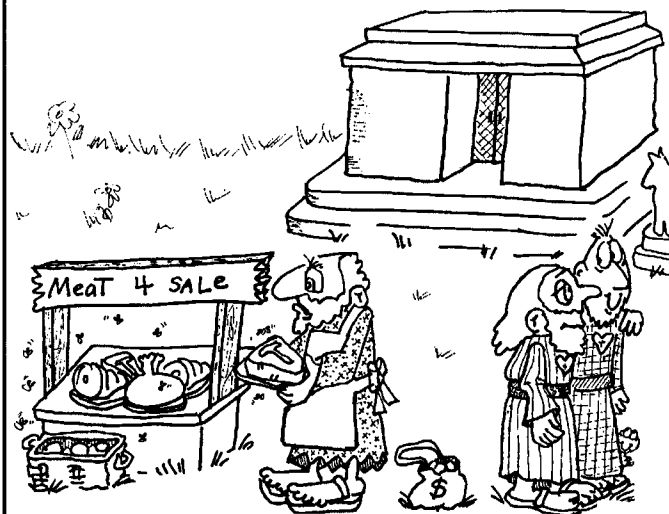


Each person has a conscience that  
tells him if something is right or wrong.

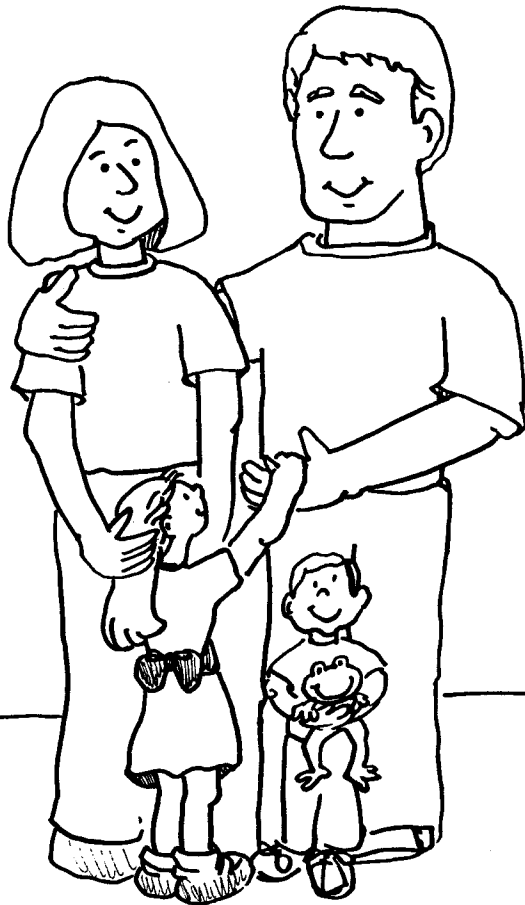
1.

Paul said, "Stop doing anything that  
hurts another Christian's conscience."

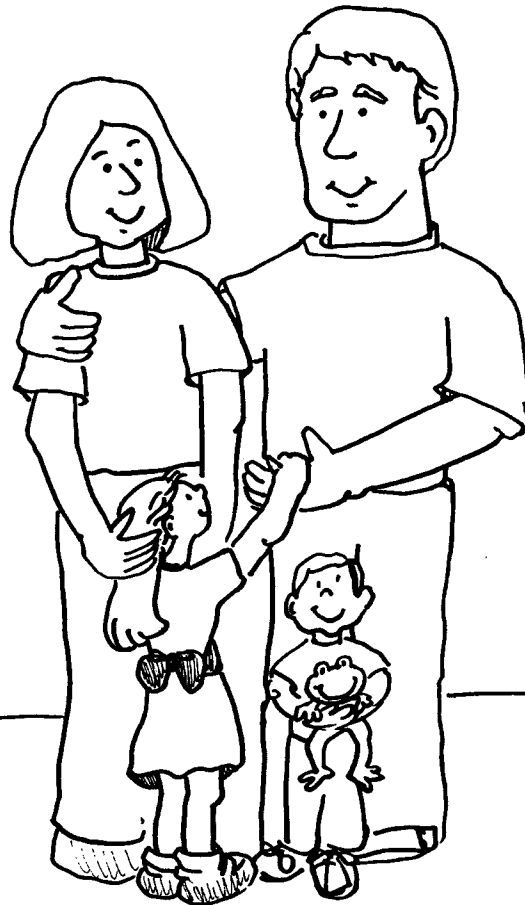
4.



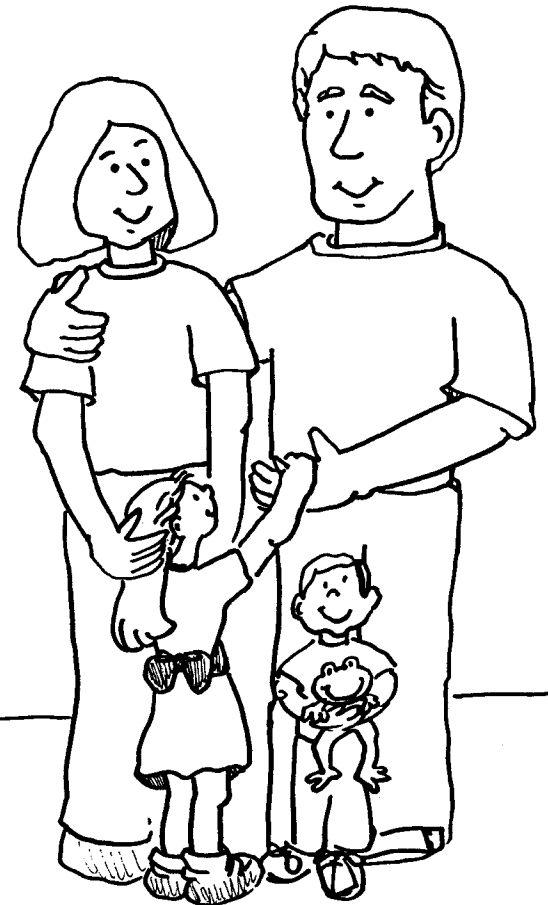
# "Obeying My Parents" Hat



God wants me to obey my parents  
and keep my conscience clean.



God wants me to obey my parents  
and keep my conscience clean.



God wants me to obey my parents  
and keep my conscience clean.

# Thinking of Others or Myself?

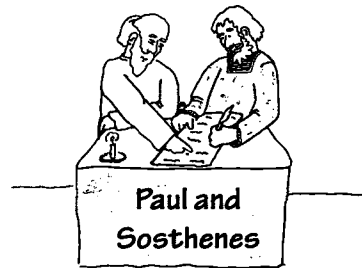
Circle the children who are being considerate of others.





TC008ECGF13

May 12, 2002  
First Corinthians Chapters 8-9



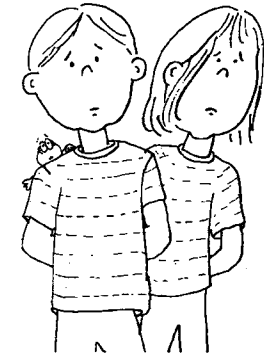
## **This is what I learned today!**

The Corinthian church consisted of Jews and Gentiles with different family traditions and ways of doing things. Paul told them that God has given each person a conscience to let him know if he is doing something that is wrong. When we sin, our conscience feels guilty or afraid. Some of the Gentiles used to take their best meat to the idol temple and worship the idols. Paul told them it was wrong to worship idols, but it was not a sin to buy and eat the extra meat that was not used at the temple. But if it made a Gentile Christian feel guilty to eat the meat because his conscience bothered him, he should not eat that meat. His friend, the Jewish Christian, also should not eat the meat if he knows it bothers his Gentile brother's conscience. Paul says that God wants us to keep our consciences clean toward God and other Christians.

## **Today's Memory Verse**

**Be careful that your  
freedom does not become  
a stumbling block.  
1 Corinthians 8:9**

## **Keep a Clean Conscience**

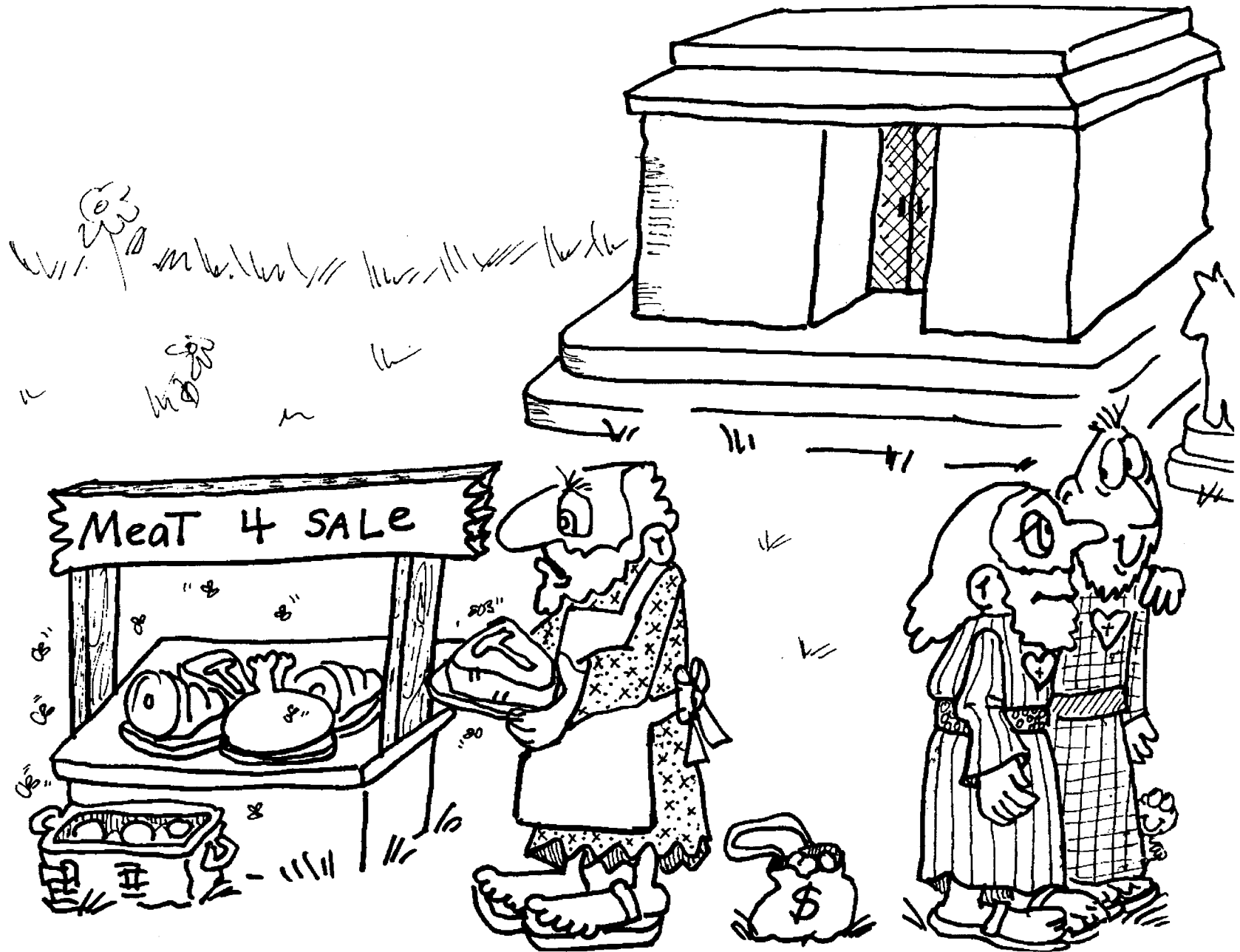


God wants each of His children to keep a clear conscience. Show your children the facial expressions and body language that are often associated with a guilty conscience--fear of getting in trouble, lying, sneaking around, hiding, downcast, guilty, not looking you in the eye. Practice these facial expressions as a family so that the children will know what you mean. Your children will enjoy acting out these expressions. This week when you see guilt or fear of punishment on your child's face, ask if his conscience is clean or bothering him. The way to keep a clean conscience is by obeying and doing what is right.

### **1 Corinthians 8:9 Memory Verse Song\*** (tune: "Pop Goes the Weasel")

First Corinthia-ans eight, nine.  
"Be careful that your freedom  
Does not become a stumbling block."  
First Corinthians eight, nine.

\* For tunes to songs, ask about the preschool tape.



Paul said, "Stop doing anything that hurts another Christian's conscience."