

**Materials I Need:**

**Legend:**



= Option 1, Appropriate for 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade



= Option 2, Appropriate for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Memory Work:**

“Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ.” 2 Corinthians 1:21a (NIV)

**Suggested Thematic Tracks:**

① Paul’s Apostolic Teaching Is God’s Word

**HOOK:** Can You Taste a Fake? (*Activity/Discussion*)

Paul, an Apostle? (*Skit*)

Let’s Meet the Apostles! (*Matching Game or Skit*)

Teaching Someone Something You Have Learned (*Activity*)

**LOOK:** Spreading the Gospel Just Like the Apostles (*Activity*)

The Word of God: Learning from the Apostles and Sharing with Others (*Game*)

Apostle Portrait (*Worksheet/Word Puzzle*)

**TOOK:** Portrait of Paul (*Activity*)

② Take Comfort in God

**HOOK:** Nobody Knows the Trouble I’ve Seen/Our Sufferings (*Discussion*)

That’s Comforting! (*Game*)

Fussy Teacher (*Role-Play*)

That’s Comforting! (*Worksheet*)

**LOOK:** God’s Comfort and Compassion (*Activity*)

**TOOK:** Comforting Others (*Discussion/Activity*)

God Comforts Us (*Craft*)



Letters of Encouragement (*Activity*)

Comfort that Overflows (*Object Lesson/Discussion*)



➤ **Complementary Activities**

**Hook:**



① **Can You Taste a Fake? (*Activity/Discussion*).**   Discuss with the students how Paul was a true apostle of Jesus Christ, who was called by the risen Lord Himself. Some false teachers in Corinth were denying that Paul was a legitimate apostle. Bring to class some of the following food items, and see if the students can tell the real from the artificial: Coke/generic cola, real sugar/Sugar Twin, real candy/sugar-free candy, real jelly/sugar-free jelly. Discuss with the students why it is important to know what God’s Word says and how to tell a real teacher from a false teacher.



① **Paul, an Apostle? (*Skit*).**   Explain to the students that an apostle was an eyewitness of

Jesus Christ who walked with Him during His ministry on earth and saw Him after His resurrection. Paul did not walk with Jesus but was called by God to be an apostle on the road to Damascus. Act out the calling of Paul by God in Acts chapter 9.

- ① **Let's Meet the Apostles! (Matching Game or Skit).** 🦋, 🦋 Who were the apostles, and why are they important to learn about? Here is the perfect opportunity to introduce these heroes of the faith. Duplex copy **2CO01.GF1 Pgs. 1 & 2** to **2CO01.GF1 Pg. 3** and use as a matching game, or be creative in coming up with a way to introduce these key figures in the early development of the Christian church. Leave the "mystery" apostle for the last. Explain to the students that Paul was the only one who became an apostle after Jesus died. In fact, he never even met Jesus during Jesus' earthly ministry! He was a Jewish rabbi and a Roman citizen. He was actually on his way to persecute Christians when he became a Christian. Even though he was a Jew, he preached mostly to the Gentiles. This man wrote the majority of the letters in the New Testament and traveled extensively to spread the Gospel. As the greatest missionary apostle, he suffered much for the cause of Christ.
- ① **Teaching Someone Something You Have Learned (Activity).** 🦋, 🦋 Teach two of the students in the class how to do something (keep it simple). This might be how to draw a special picture, assemble a puzzle, tie a special knot, sing a song, or stack some blocks in a certain way. Let those students then try to teach another student the same thing. The teacher can be present to assist as needed. The two students then teach two more students, etc. This exercise will help to demonstrate how the spreading of the Gospel started with the apostles teaching others, who in turn taught others, etc.
- ② **Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen/Our Sufferings (Discussion).** 🦋, 🦋 Tell the students that this morning they will hear how Paul was comforted in knowing that he had suffered for Christ. He also found comfort in the concern fellow believers' demonstrated toward him. Paul experienced many different kinds of sufferings. There were physical, emotional, and spiritual stresses he was forced to endure as an apostle. To set the stage for further development of this theme, discuss with the students different hardships, pressures, troubles, distresses, or difficult times that they have each experienced. This may be as simple as a sad day at school or as difficult as the death of a loved one. Ask the question: "Have you ever been saddened over someone else's sin?" Use the "sad faces" from **2CO01.GF2** to write the many different ideas generated in your discussions as time allows. These can then be punched with holes, strung up with pieces of yarn, or taped to the classroom wall for decoration. Consider hanging them from the suspended ceiling grids. Keep them up for several weeks (or perhaps the entire book) as a reminder of God's comfort for us during difficult times.
- ② **That's Comforting! (Game).** 🦋, 🦋 Before class, prepare three layers on the wall as follows:
1. Bottom layer: a 44" wide X 34" long piece of paper with the message: "God Comforts Us in All Our Troubles" created in word pictures. (See **2CO01.GF3 Pg. 1** for an example)
  2. Middle layer: two copies each of **2CO01.GF3 Pgs. 2 - 9**
  3. Top layer: blank sheets of paper to cover middle layer.
- Play this game as you would Concentration. Have the students take turns looking under two top sheets at each turn. They must remember and then match the pictures of stuffed animals, a blanket, a pacifier, etc. Remove the matches to reveal the message.
- ② **Fussy Teacher (Role-Play).** 🦋, 🦋 Bring to class props such as a "blankey," a pillow, a few stuffed animals, and a pacifier. Have a teacher pretend to be very upset about: something silly such as not having been able to wear his favorite shirt that morning because it was dirty or there weren't enough marshmallows in his Lucky Charms. Have other teachers try to comfort him. Allow the students to try also. Bring out the "blankey," a pillow, a few stuffed animals, and lastly, a pacifier. Which does the trick? Use this to introduce 2 Corinthians. Paul began his letter to them with comforting words. Explain that they needed comfort because of true suffering and real trouble.
- ② **That's Comforting! (Worksheet).** 🦋 Use the worksheet to show the students who truly comforts us in all our troubles, **2CO01.GF4**. *Answers: dog, pillow, bed, pacifier, chocolate, bathtub, teddy bear; God the Father.*



## Book:

### Presentation Ideas –

- Paul in Anguish/Paul Joyful (*Illustration/Coloring Page*) 🦋, 🦋 2 Corinthians 2:4, 2CO01.GF5
- Paul's Letters and Visits to Corinth (*Illustration/Coloring Page*) 🦋, 🦋 2CO01.GF6
- Paul's Ministry to Corinth (*Timeline*). 🦋, 🦋 Use this timeline to show Paul's visits and letters to Corinth, 2CO01.GF7.
- Be a Corinthian (*Role-Play*). 🦋, 🦋 Dress in costume and introduce yourself as a citizen of Corinth. Tell of Paul's visits and letters from a first person viewpoint. Talk about what Paul wrote in today's passage as if it were written to you as a member of the Corinthian church.

### Bible Adventure for 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Grades –

Today we are going to begin our study of 2 Corinthians. The Apostle Paul actually wrote four letters to the Corinthian church, but only two of them (1 and 2 Corinthians) are a part of the New Testament scriptures. After he had sent the letter of 1 Corinthians to them, he heard some bad reports. Apparently, some people in the church were refusing to listen to Paul and change their sinful ways. Paul decided that it was necessary to pay them a visit. It ended up being a very painful and sorrowful experience because there were many who did not want to acknowledge Paul's authority as an apostle sent by God. After Paul left them, he wrote them another letter (one that is not a part of the New Testament scriptures). He was very sad when he wrote this letter. In fact, 2 Corinthians 2:4 says that the letter was sent "out of great distress and anguish of heart." He had to be very severe with them and this hurt him a great deal. He had his ministry partner, Titus, deliver the letter. Finally, when Paul was in Macedonia, Titus returned with the good news that the Corinthians were very sorry about how they had responded to Paul. Their hearts had changed, and they now wanted to listen to Paul and obey the Lord. To express his relief, Paul wrote them the letter of 2 Corinthians in the year 56 A.D. He wanted to tell them how thankful he was that they had finally repented.

However, there still remained a few who did not accept Paul's authority as an apostle of Jesus Christ. They were listening to false teachers who were preaching a false gospel. These teachers were saying bad things about Paul and claiming that he did not have the proper qualifications to be an apostle. The reason Paul wrote 2 Corinthians was to prove that he was indeed a true apostle and to appeal to the few to stop listening to the false teachers and accept his authority and instruction. In a nutshell, you could say the theme of 2 Corinthians is "Apostleship Defended."

Paul began his letter by saying that he was the one who wrote it and that he did have authority as an apostle. Paul wanted to make his position as an apostle very clear to his readers because he was directed by the Holy Spirit to speak the very words of God. He knew that what he had to write to the Corinthians was absolute truth that had been revealed to him by Christ Himself. It is important to realize why Paul's being an apostle is so significant. In Ephesians 2:20, it says that God's household is "built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus Himself as the chief cornerstone." In the Old Testament, God spoke to His people through the prophets. He then showed Himself through Jesus Christ His Son, and the teachings of Jesus' apostles are what make up the New Testament scriptures. These apostles were a special set of men called by Jesus to lay the foundation of His church. They had been personally taught by Jesus, had seen Him after His resurrection, and were specifically called to the work of an apostle. Paul was born after the other twelve apostles. He did not actually walk with Jesus during his earthly ministry, but the resurrected Christ came to Paul while Paul was traveling to Damascus and called him to do the work of an apostle. However, because Paul was born after the other twelve apostles, the false teachers in the Corinthian church were saying that he was a fake. This was a terrible thing for the Corinthian church, because if people believed these false teachers, they would not listen to Paul. They would not understand God's true plan for His church and the salvation of His people. This was of greatest concern to Paul, and he spent the last portion of his letter defending his apostleship and rebuking the false teachers.

Interestingly enough, however, Paul spent the first portion of his letter talking about something very different. He praised God for His tremendous comfort and compassion. Paul poured his heart out and shared how difficult things had been for him. He had been in anguish over the painful visit that he had

made to the Corinthians and the harsh letter that he had to write afterward. He did not hide the fact that he had suffered a great deal in his ministry, especially in his ministry to the Corinthian church. He loved them so much, and it was extremely painful for Paul to watch them be disobedient and deceived by false teachers. But he praised God for the comfort he received when he heard the news of their repentance and God's work in their lives. He was confident that, even though he suffered for Christ, he would also receive an overflowing abundance of compassion and comfort coming straight from the heart of a loving God. Paul wanted the Corinthian believers to know that they could also enjoy this comfort because, even though it was painful, God in His grace had led them to repentance. They could take great hope in the fact that God will never stop working in a believer's life. Even if things become desperate, God will always be there to deliver His children. Paul also taught that as believers experience the comfort of God, they can turn around and show that same comfort to someone else who is suffering. He urged them to pray for God's deliverance for others who were suffering, for as Paul said, "It is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ" (1:21a).

What can we take away from this first lesson on 2 Corinthians? First, that Paul was indeed an apostle of Jesus Christ. He was called and trained by the risen Lord Himself. He, with the other twelve apostles, laid the foundation for the church, which is the body of Christ. The Holy Spirit told them what to teach and their writings make up the New Testament scriptures. Paul's letter to the Corinthians was God's Word when he wrote it, and it is God's Word for us today. We need to love the Bible and devote ourselves to studying and obeying it, for as Paul said in 2 Timothy 3:16, 17, "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

Secondly, even as an apostle, Paul was utterly dependent upon God. His ministry was filled with all kinds of suffering, both physical and emotional. As he suffered for Christ, he ran into the arms of his heavenly Father for the compassion and comfort he so desperately needed. He was confident that God would always be there for him. All Christians should find their comfort in God and not look for it in any other created thing. And when we have found comfort in Him, we need to share His comfort with those around us who are suffering. We can do this by listening to others as they tell of their pain. We can pray for them and point them to our wonderful God who is always faithful to keep all of His promises.

#### Aim Questions

1. **Who wrote the book of 2 Corinthians? When?** *(Paul; 56 A.D.)*
2. **From where did he write this letter?** *(Macedonia.)*
3. **What is the theme of the book?** *(Apostleship Defended.)*
4. **What prompted Paul to write this letter?** *(Thanksgiving for the repentance of many Corinthians and the need to defend his apostleship and denounce false teachers.)*
5. **Why was it important for the Corinthians to believe that Paul was an apostle of Jesus?** *(Apostolic teaching was authoritative for the early Church and was considered God's Word.)*
6. **How did Paul find comfort?** *(By seeking God and hoping in His compassionate promises.)*



#### Look:



① **Spreading the Gospel Just Like the Apostles (Activity).** 🦋, 🦋 The apostles of Jesus Christ were chosen to begin the church. Demonstrate how the Gospel was spread throughout the world by scattering the students throughout the classroom. Appoint a couple of students as apostles and start them in a corner of the room. Give them each a verse from today's lesson (the memory verse; Ephesians 2:20; 2 Timothy 3:16, 17). Keep it simple to ensure success. Send them out to teach the verse that they were given to the other students in the classroom. Once they have taught someone that verse, they must all continue to teach others the verse that they were taught. By the end of the game, everyone should know all the verses. If the weather is nice, play this outside.




① **The Word of God: Learning from the Apostles and Sharing with Others (Game).** 🦋, 🦋


You will need:

butcher paper with "Christ Is the Cornerstone" written across it  
2CO01.GF8 Pg. 1 example chart


verses from *God's Comfort and Compassion Activity* written onto pieces of paper  
 apostle faces from **2CO01.GF1 Pgs. 1 & 2**  
 hat or container  
 tape or glue sticks


Explain to the students that the apostles, trained by Christ Himself, laid the foundation for Christ's church on which we now stand and continue to serve the kingdom. Christ is the cornerstone, and the teachings of the apostles are laid on top of that. See **2CO01.GF8 Pg. 1** for the finished chart showing how this is to look on the wall once the game is completed. Begin this activity by taping the "Christ Is the Cornerstone" banner on the wall. Have the students form lines perpendicular to the wall. The student farthest from the wall pulls out a verse from the hat or container, reads it, and passes it to the next student in line. That student in turn reads it and passes it to the next student who reads and passes it, etc. The student at the wall pastes the verse up on the wall along with the face of one of the apostles. These verses and apostles are taped on top of Christ, the cornerstone. Once completed, the line shifts, sending the student at the wall to the beginning of the line. Start again with the next verse.


 ① **Apostle Portrait (Worksheet/Word Puzzle)**. 🦋 Have the students unscramble each of the clue words and copy the letters in the numbered cells to other cells with the same number. Then have them use each of the words from the puzzle to complete the Apostle Portrait story, **2CO01.GF9 Pg. 1**. *Answer Key: 2CO01.GF9 Pg. 2*.

 ② **God's Comfort and Compassion (Activity)**. 🦋, 🦋 Have the students take turns looking up and reading the verses listed below that show us God's compassion. Explain that this compassion brings us great comfort during difficult times. You might want to supply the materials for making a bookmark (**2CO01.GF10**) or Bible insert so that the students can have a handy reference for these verses. Or you can choose to make greeting cards to give to someone else who needs comfort. These are great verses to share with others who are hurting.

Comfort in God's grace:	Ephesians 1:6-7; 2 Corinthians 9:8; 1 Pet. 5:10; James 1:17; Hebrews 4:16
Comfort in God's mercy:	Psalm 31:7; Psalm 103:8; Hebrews 4:15, 16; 2 Corinthians 1:3, 4; Psalm 23:6
Comfort with confidence:	Philippians 4:13; Isaiah 40:31; Colossians 3:15; 1 Corinthians 1:30; Romans 8:38, 39
Comfort in repentance:	Matthew 9:13; Acts 5:31; Romans 10:9; 2 Corinthians 7:10; 1 John 1:9
Comfort in obedience:	John 14:23; John 14:21; John 15:4,5,7; Romans 6:17; 1 Samuel 15:22
Comfort in deliverance:	Psalm 138:7; 1 Peter 1:3-5; 1 Corinthians 10:13; Psalm 68:20; Psalm 56:13
Comfort in hope:	2 Timothy 1:9; Jude 24, 25; 1 Peter 1:21; Psalm 33:18; Rom. 15:13
Comfort in sharing the suffering with Christ:	Romans 8:35, 36; 2 Corinthians 4:11,12; Colossians 1:24; Philippians 3:10

 ➤ **2 Corinthians 1:21a (Memory Verse Game)**. 🦋, 🦋 Copy **2CO01.GF11** onto cardstock for each group of three or four students. Cut apart the blocks for the memory verse and place each set into an envelope. Give each group an envelope. At your signal, see which group can unscramble the verse first.

 ➤ **Paul's Ministry to Corinth (Worksheet)**. 🦋, 🦋 Have the students cut out and fill in the events mentioned in 2 Corinthians on the timeline, **2CO01.GF12**.

 ➤ **Stand Firm If You Can! (Game)**. 🦋, 🦋 You will need a skateboard, wagon, creeper, or some other kind of rolling cart for the students to stand on. Write the memory verse on the board. Ask a student volunteer to come to the front of the class. Read the verse with the class. Once it is familiar, have the student volunteer stand on the rolling platform. As the class repeats the verse, move the platform with each word. If the student falls, stop. Let a few other students try. Then have a competition. The student on the platform says the verse. See who can get all the way though without falling.

➤ **Stand Firm with Comfort (Activity/Object lesson).** 🎨, 🦋 You will need a skateboard, wagon, creeper, or some other kind of rolling cart for students to stand on. This would be a good follow-up or introduction to the activity, *Stand Firm If You Can!* The Greek word that Paul uses for comfort means to “come alongside.” This kind of comfort helps us to stand firm when we have trouble or difficulty. Have some students get on the rolling platform and try to keep their balance when it is moved back and forth. Then have them try it with a teacher standing alongside to help them keep their balance. Ask the students: “See how much easier it is to stand firm now? How is the teacher like God in this activity?”

➤ **Aim Questions (Worksheet).** 🎨 Have the students answer the Aim Questions about today’s Bible Adventure, **2CO01.GF13**.

➤ **Passage Review Questions (Worksheet).** 🎨, 🦋 This booklet contains many questions from the Scripture passage covered in today’s lesson. Students may work on them in class and complete them during the week at home, **2CO01.GF14 Pgs. 1 & 2**.

➤ **2 Corinthians 1:21a (Memory Verse Song).** 🎨 Words and music for today’s memory verse are available upon request from Children’s Ministry.

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### Took:

① **Portrait of Paul (Activity).** 🎨, 🦋 This will be an ongoing activity each week where you will have the opportunity to add a characteristic to Paul that you have discovered in each lesson. It may be used as a part of the BOOK or LOOK time each week after today’s introduction during the last portion of the teaching time. Decide how you may want to develop this portrait of Paul. It could be someone who dresses up like Paul each week and items pinned to his toga. It may be a picture on the wall, a silhouette on a large sheet of butcher paper, or a life-sized mannequin. A picture of Paul has been provided (**2CO01.GF15**). If you make a transparency of this picture and project it on the wall, you can trace around it. Each week, highlight Paul’s character qualities, Paul’s authority as an apostle, his ministry information, historical information, etc. Keep this as an ongoing activity, building and reviewing each week. In a few weeks, allow the students to direct this activity, giving them the opportunity to express what they have learned.




② **Comforting Others (Discussion/Activity).** 🎨, 🦋 Tell the students that this morning they have learned how Paul was comforted by the concern and affection expressed by his fellow believers in the Corinthian church. If there are students in the group who know of individuals who are struggling, they might want to send them a note of encouragement. Use some of the verses listed in the activity from the LOOK time, *God’s Comfort and Compassion*. Have them write down specific ways to pray for these individuals this coming week using a card they can carry with them or put next to their bed.




② **God Comforts Us (Craft).** 🎨, 🦋 Each student will need:  
**2CO01.GF16** copied onto light-colored construction paper that has been pre-cut with holes punched  
2 feet of yarn (tape or glue on one end to prevent fraying)  
1 piece of tissue or fiberfill

Have the students lace the “pillow” pieces together with yarn. Before they stitch the last side, have them stuff it with tissue and close.

Option: Use fabric, following the instructions below:




1. Write **God Comforts Us** in permanent marker on rectangles of fabric or felt.
2. Sew rectangles together, leaving an opening for turning and stuffing. If felt is used, punch holes and have the students lace pillows together as instructed for the paper pillow above.
3. Decorate with colored markers before stuffing with fiberfill.
4. Glue shut.

 ② **Letters of Encouragement (Activity).**   Explain to the students that just as Paul was filled with joy from the encouragement that he received from the Corinthian church, we can prove to be an encouragement to our missionaries by writing to them and affirming God's work through them. When we write letters to our missionaries, this comforts them in their efforts in spreading the Gospel throughout the world. Times can be very difficult for them. If they know that we are praying for them, they are comforted. This week's memory verse would be the perfect encouragement for a missionary. Have supplies available that will allow the students to make interesting cards or letters.

 ② **Comfort that Overflows (Object Lesson/Discussion).**   Supplies needed:  
2 containers (clear if possible), one smaller and shorter than the other  
1 pitcher of red liquid  
1 pitcher of blue liquid (*You can use two flavors of Kool-Aid for this and drink it when you're finished!*)

Try this demonstration first to make sure you have enough liquid for the containers you are using.




1. Put the small container inside the larger, deeper one.
2. Read 2 Corinthians 1:5. Paul said that sufferings of Christ "overflow" in our lives.
3. Ask the students the following questions:
  - What kind of trouble comes to us because we are Christians?
  - What troubles do Christians in other parts of the world face?
  - What difficulty makes it hard for us to trust God?
4. As the students offer ideas, add the red liquid to the small container.
5. Do this until it begins to overflow into the large container.
6. Discuss with them how Paul also said that, through Christ, our comfort from God overflows.
7. Now pour the blue liquid into the large container (outside of the small one) until it flows over the small container. Watch as the liquids mix and gradually turn purple.
8. Discuss what it means for God's comfort to overflow in our lives.

 ➤ **Standing Firm Sandal (Craft).**   Each student will need:  
**2CO01.GF17 Pgs. 1 & 2** copied onto brown or tan paper  
memory verse label from **2CO01.GF18**  
scissors  
glue or stapler  
coloring crayons or markers  
glitter (optional)




Have the students follow the directions below to complete their crafts:

1. Color and decorate the sandal before assembly.
2. Cut out the sole and the top of the sandal along the outside lines only.
3. Fold the sandal top upward at the "stitching lines."
4. Glue or staple the sandal onto the sole.
5. Glue the memory verse onto the inside sole of the sandal.

Discuss with the students the memory verse, "Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ." As the students work on their crafts, ask them what it means to "stand firm."

 ➤ **Standing Firm Feet (Craft).**   Each student will need:  
1 memory verse from **2CO01.GF18**  
8 ½ x 11" sheet of cardstock  
sand (this could be colored craft sand)  
glue

Have the students look up today's memory verse. Ask them what they think this passage means. With a marker, trace each student's feet on a sheet of cardstock. Have them spread glue all around the feet. Using a shallow box or baking pan to catch the excess, sprinkle sand onto the glue. Then, have them glue the memory verse label inside one of the feet. Discuss what Paul meant when he challenged the Corinthians to stand firm.

 ➤ **2 Corinthians Incentive (Activity/Craft).**   Utilize this overview tool and incentive program to motivate the students and their parents to memorize the outline and key verses for the book of 2 Corinthians. Devote time in the classroom to help the students to begin memorizing the book's key Scriptures and the overall theme of each lesson: The Apostle and His Comfort, The Apostle and His Message, The Apostle and His Hope, and so forth. Explain the incentive program

at length to the students (see the note to parents on the Scripture Key Chain) and encourage them to ask their parents to participate with them. Show the students both components of the program, the Take-Home Scripture memory cards and the One-Sent Flying Disc. Direct the students to memorize the first verse in the memory cards ("The Apostle and His Comfort") for next week in order to be rewarded with the initial One-Sent Flying Disc and lesson one's sticker. These flying discs will be hung from the bulletin board in the classroom over the next two months as the students are rewarded with each sticker.



Andrew



James



James



John



Thaddeus



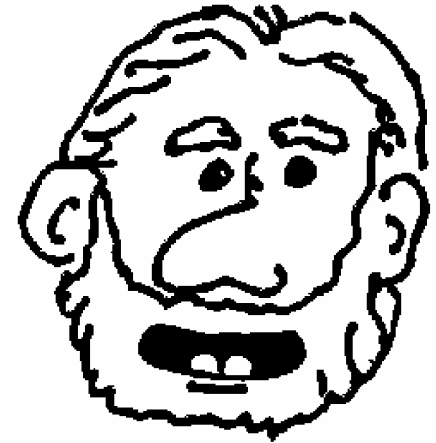
Matthew



Bartholomew



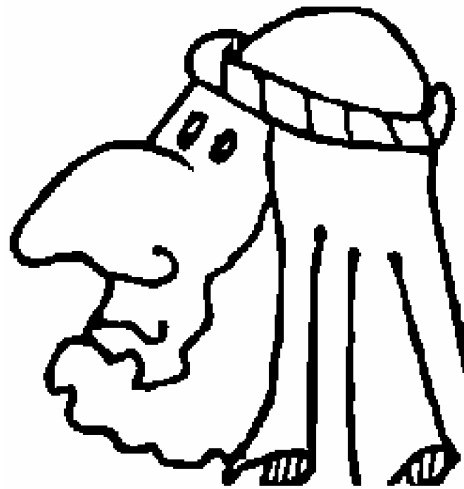
Paul



Peter



Philip



Simon



Thomas

Let's Meet  
the  
Apostles

Let's Meet  
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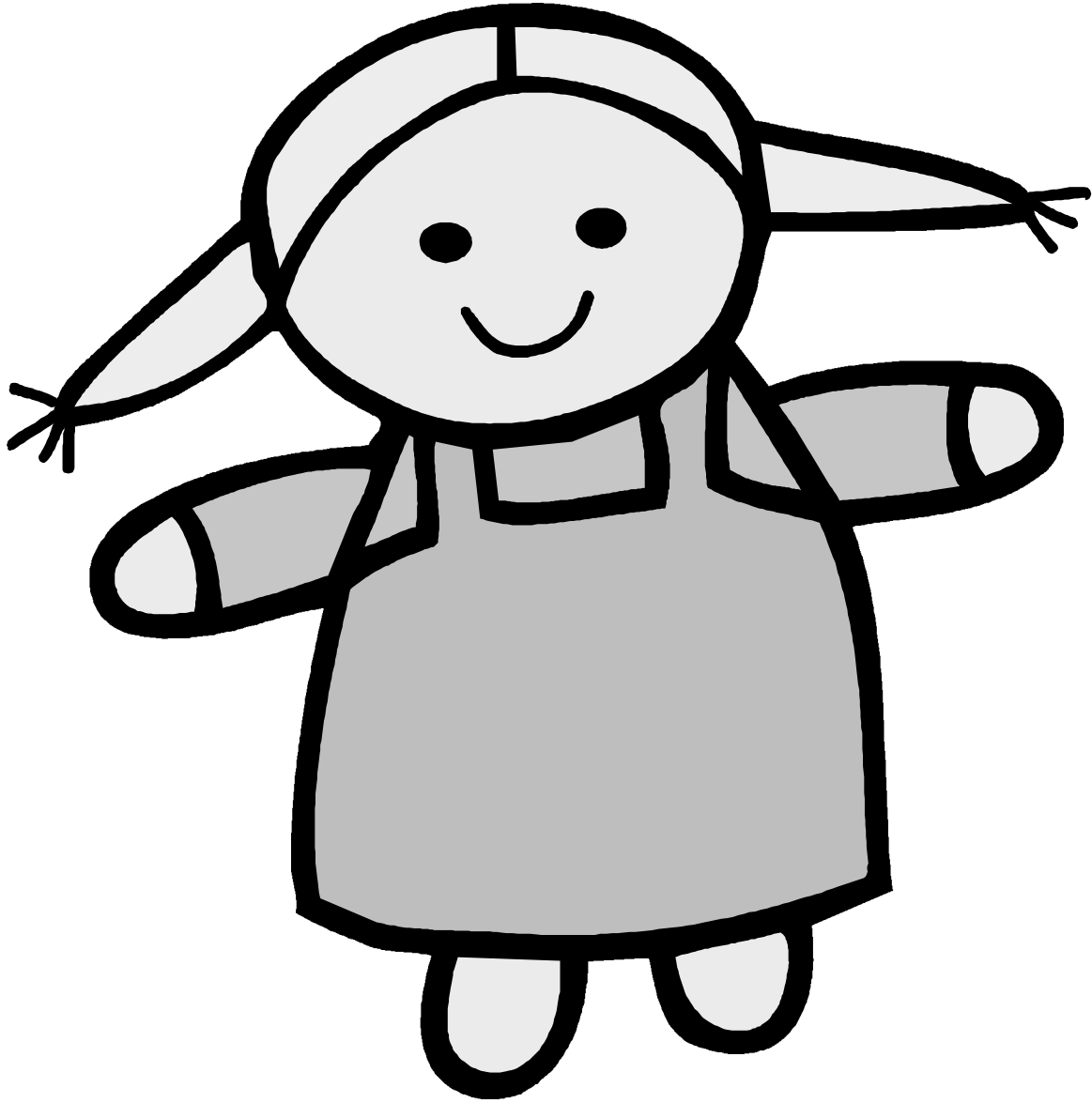
GOD *comes*



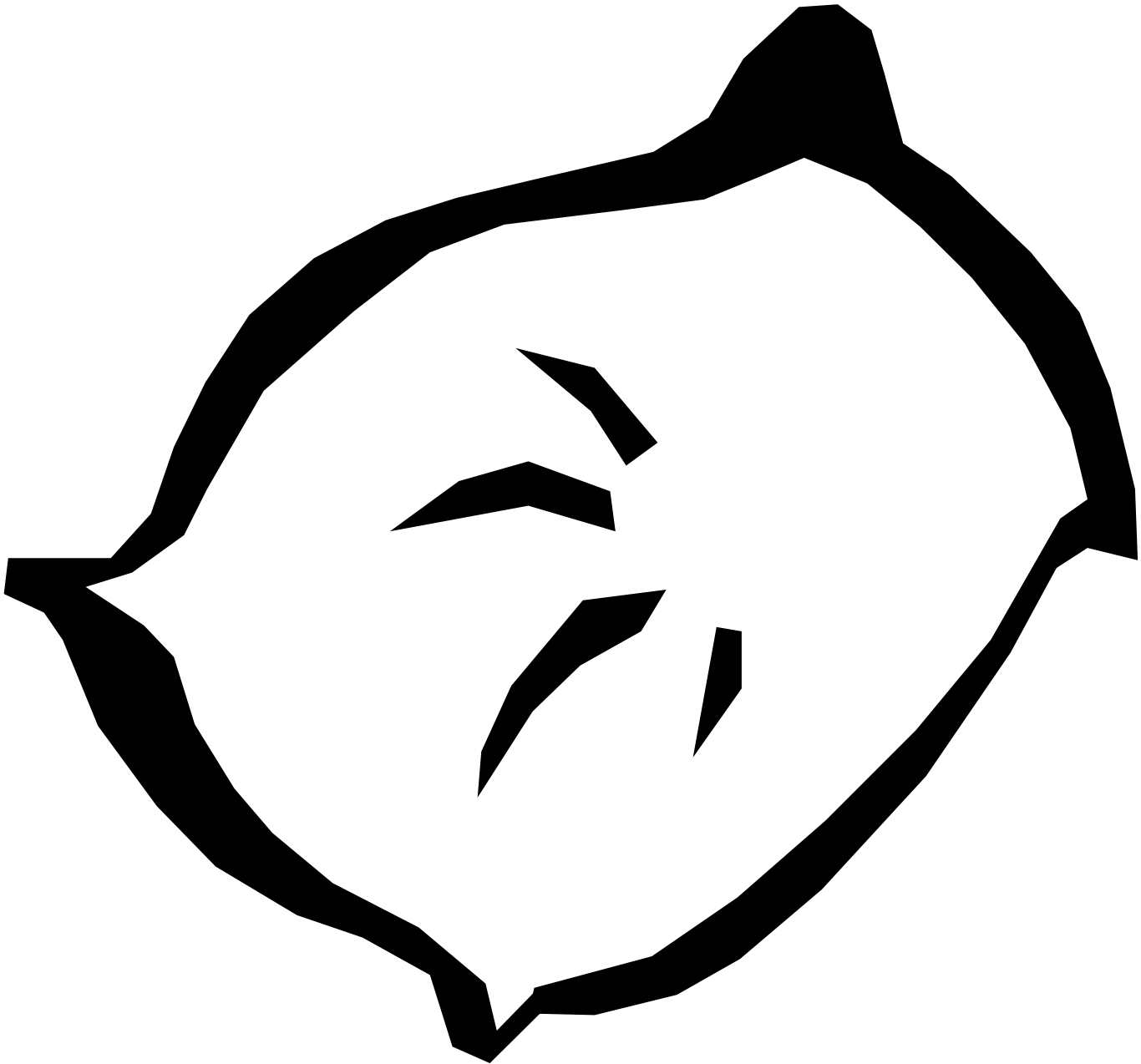
*us*

*in all our*

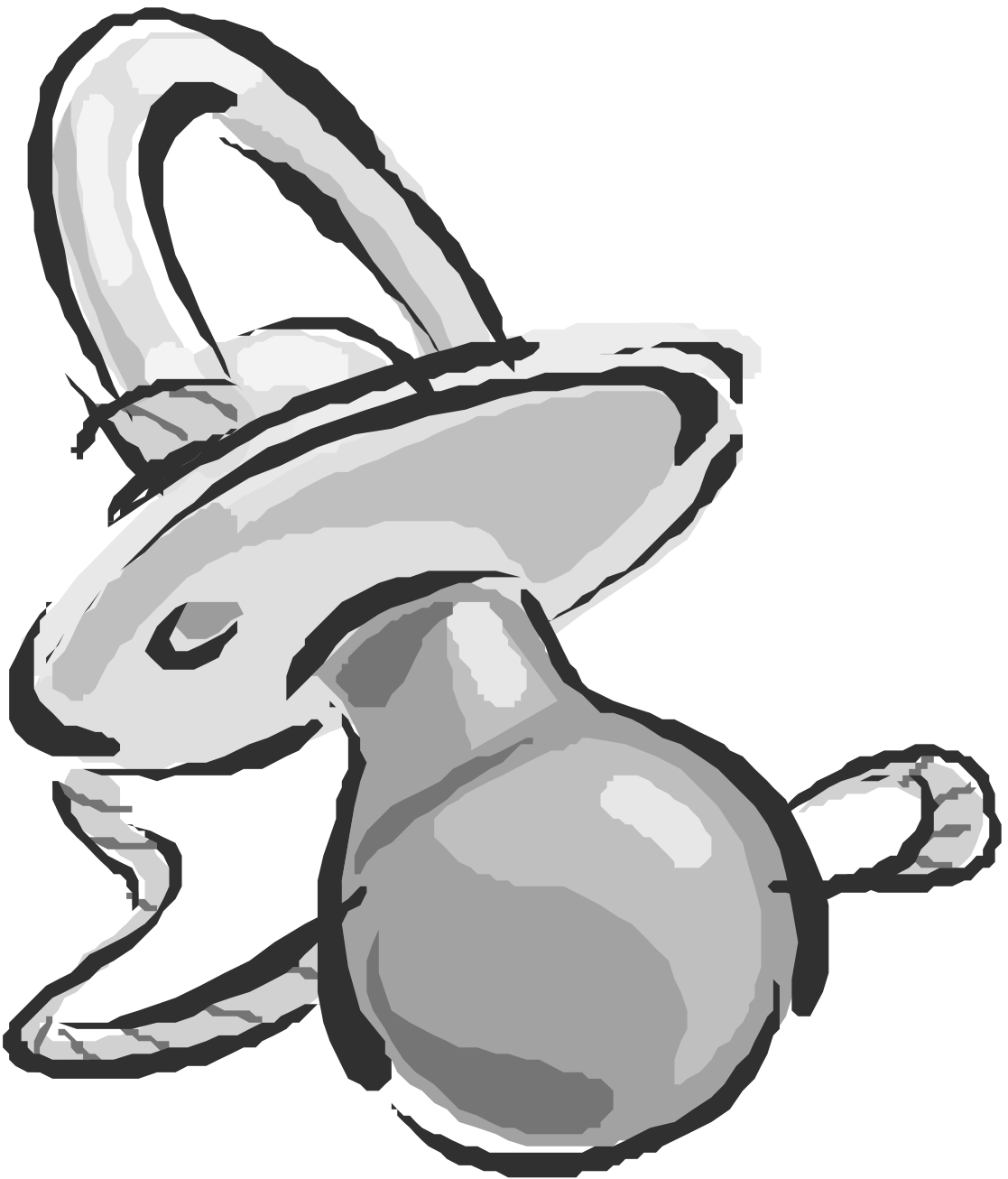


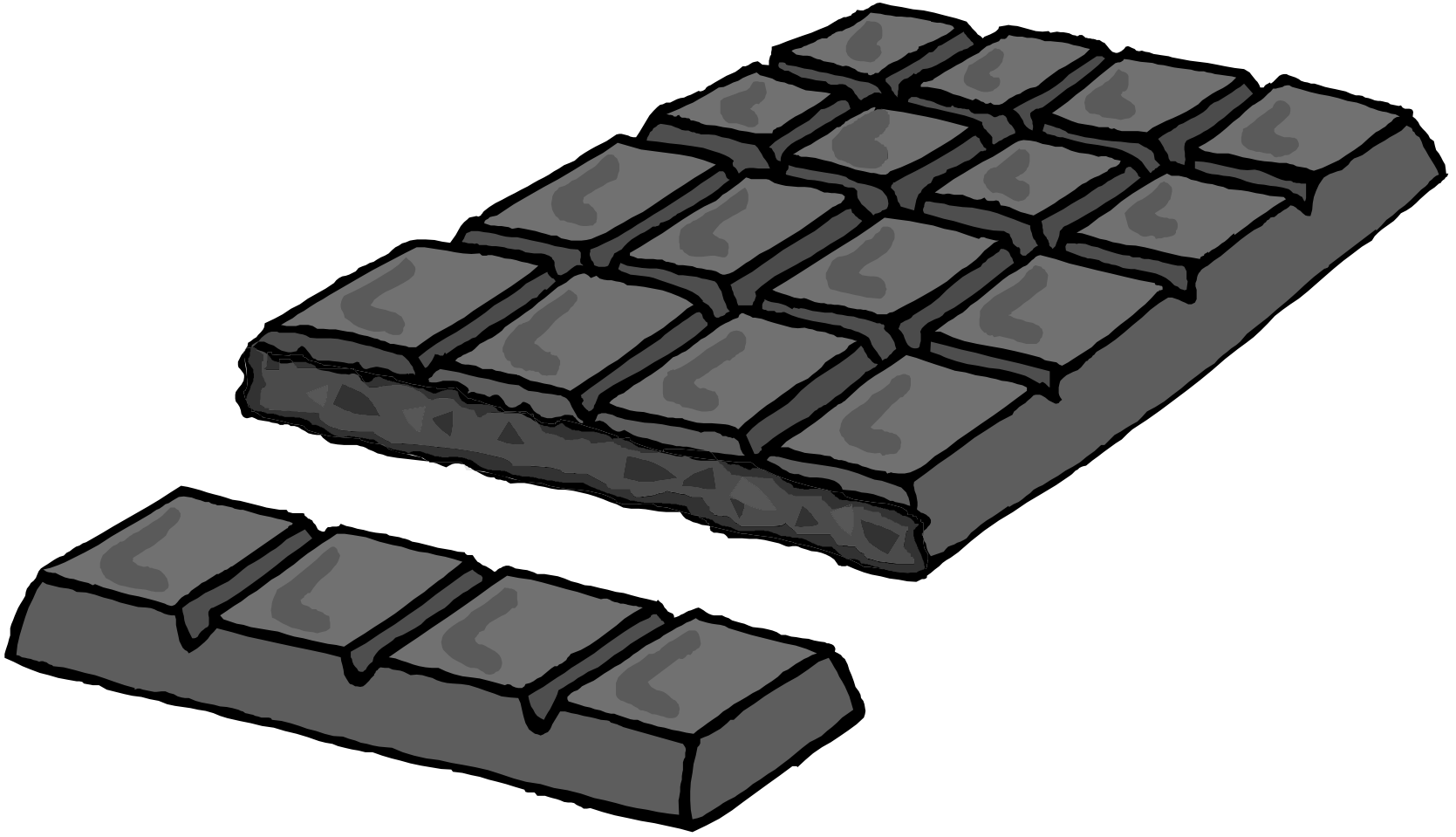


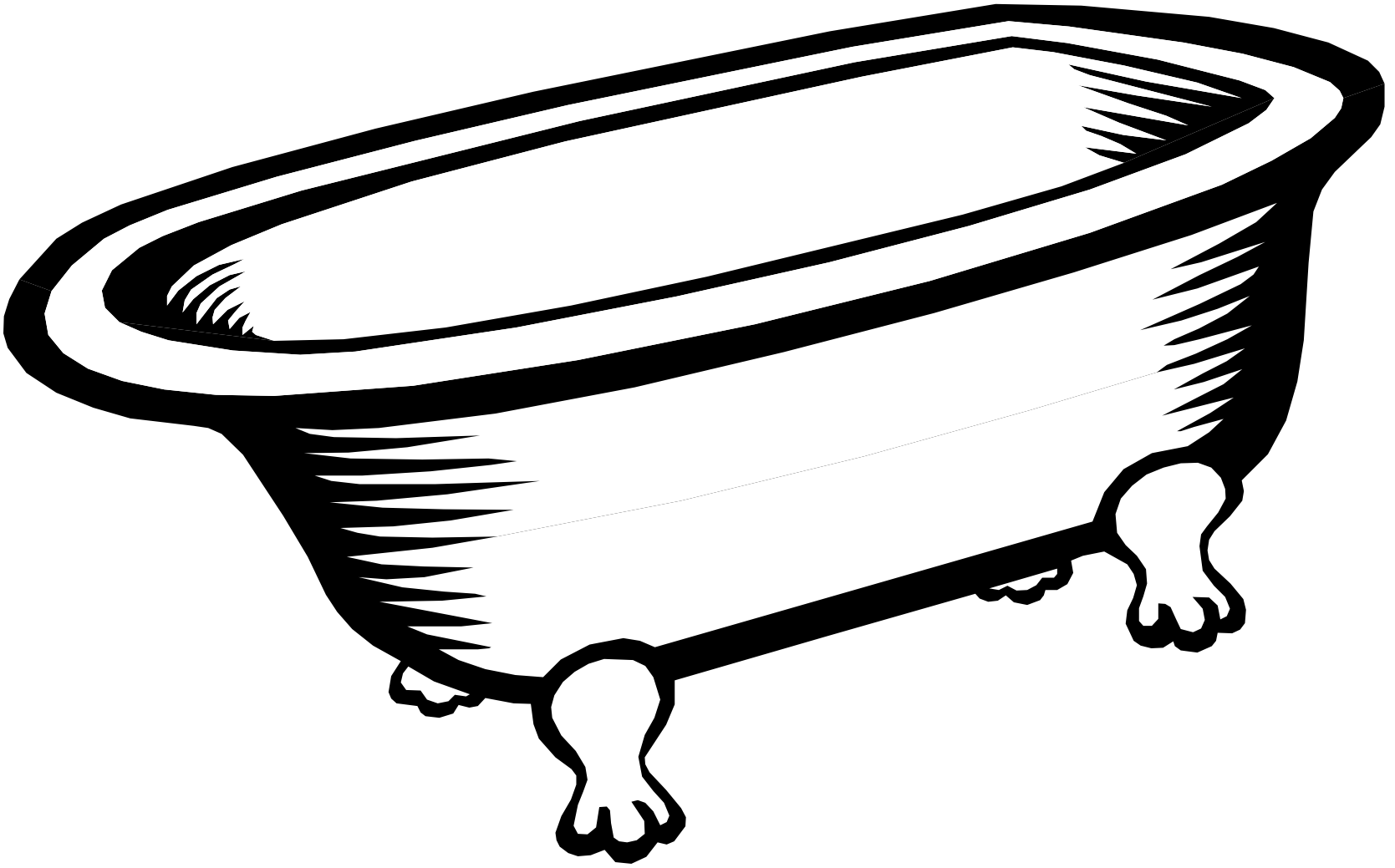


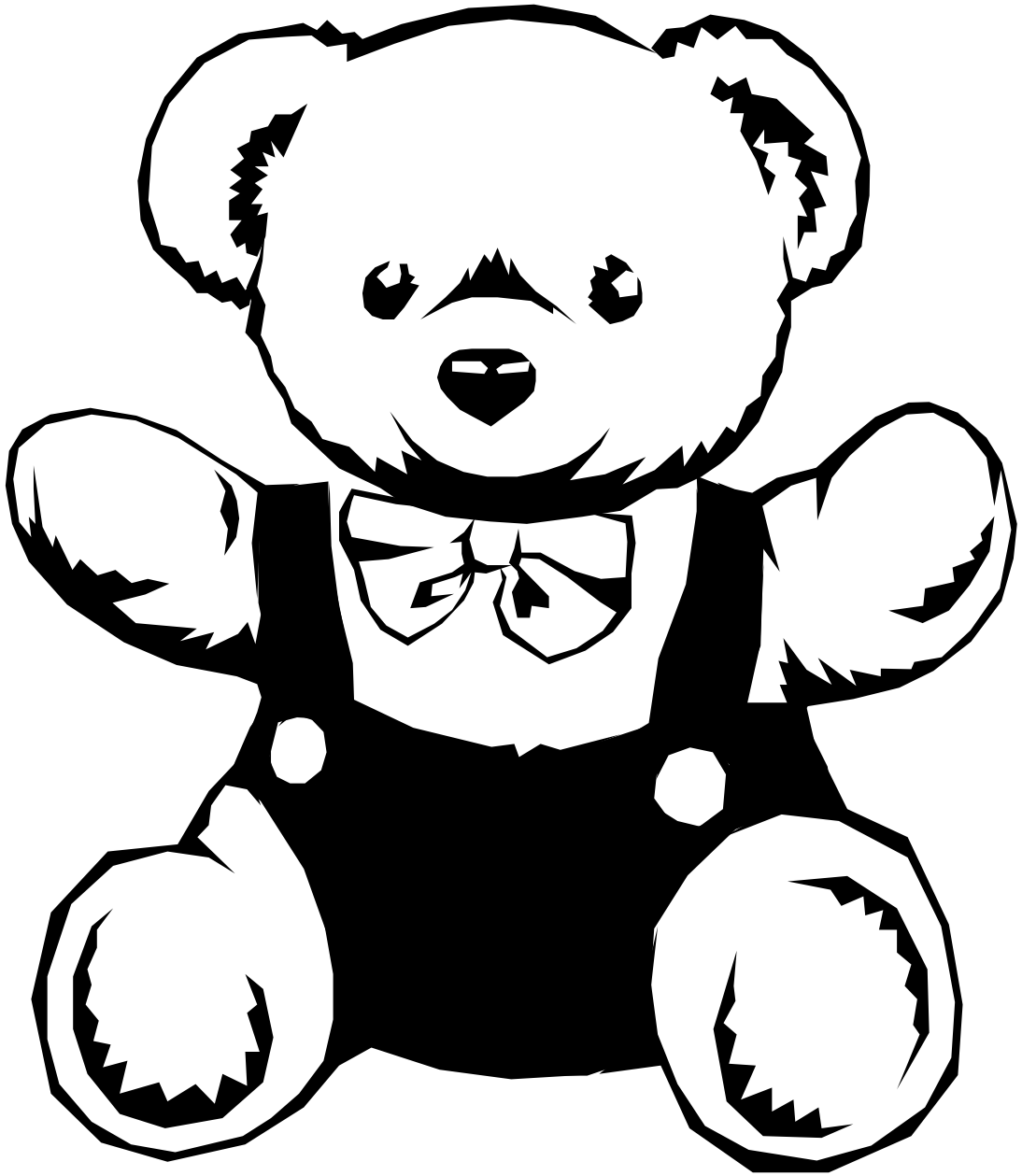






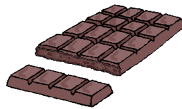
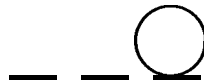
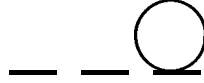






# That's Comforting!

People try to comfort themselves with these things:

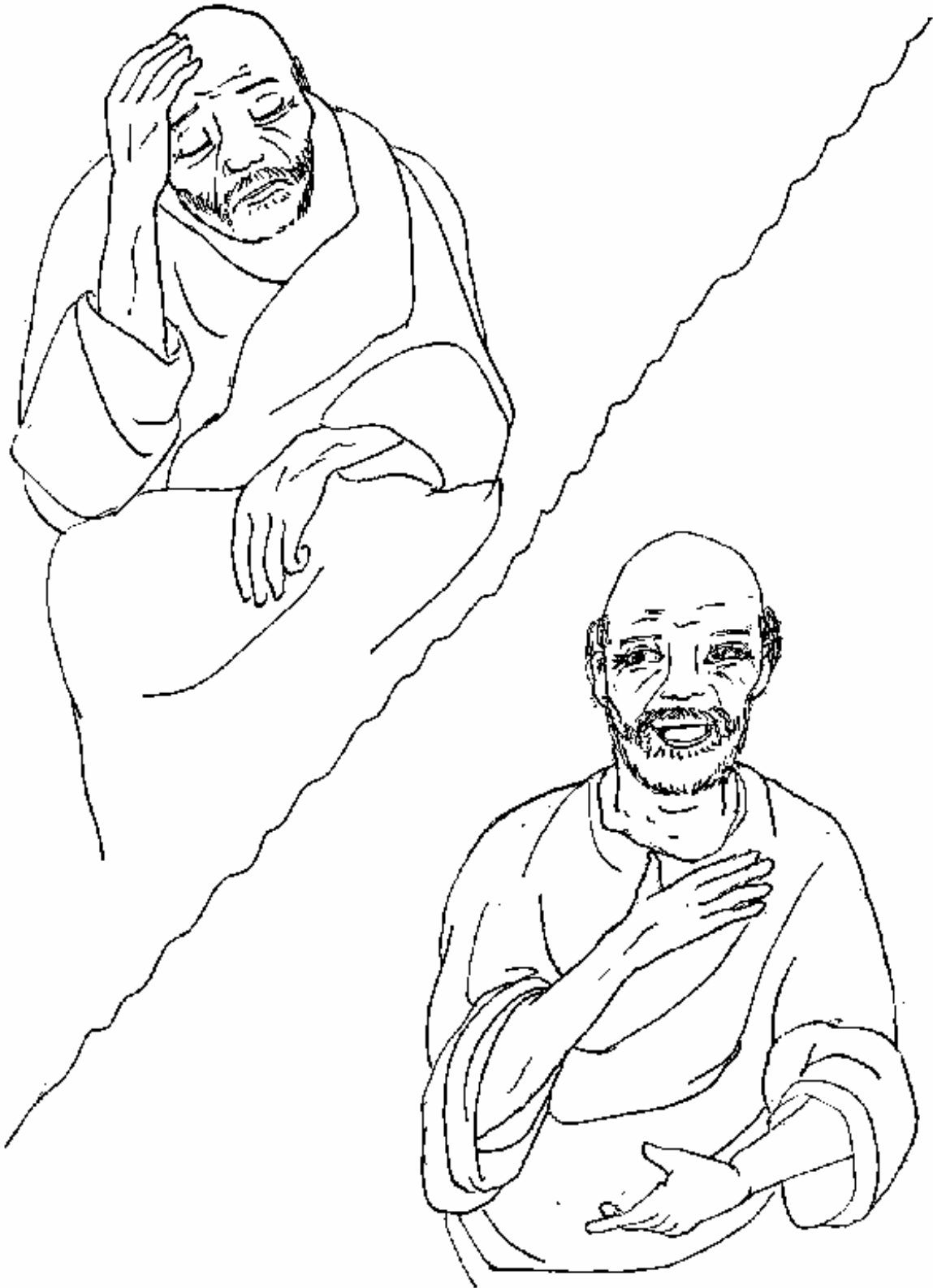


Who comforts us in all our troubles?

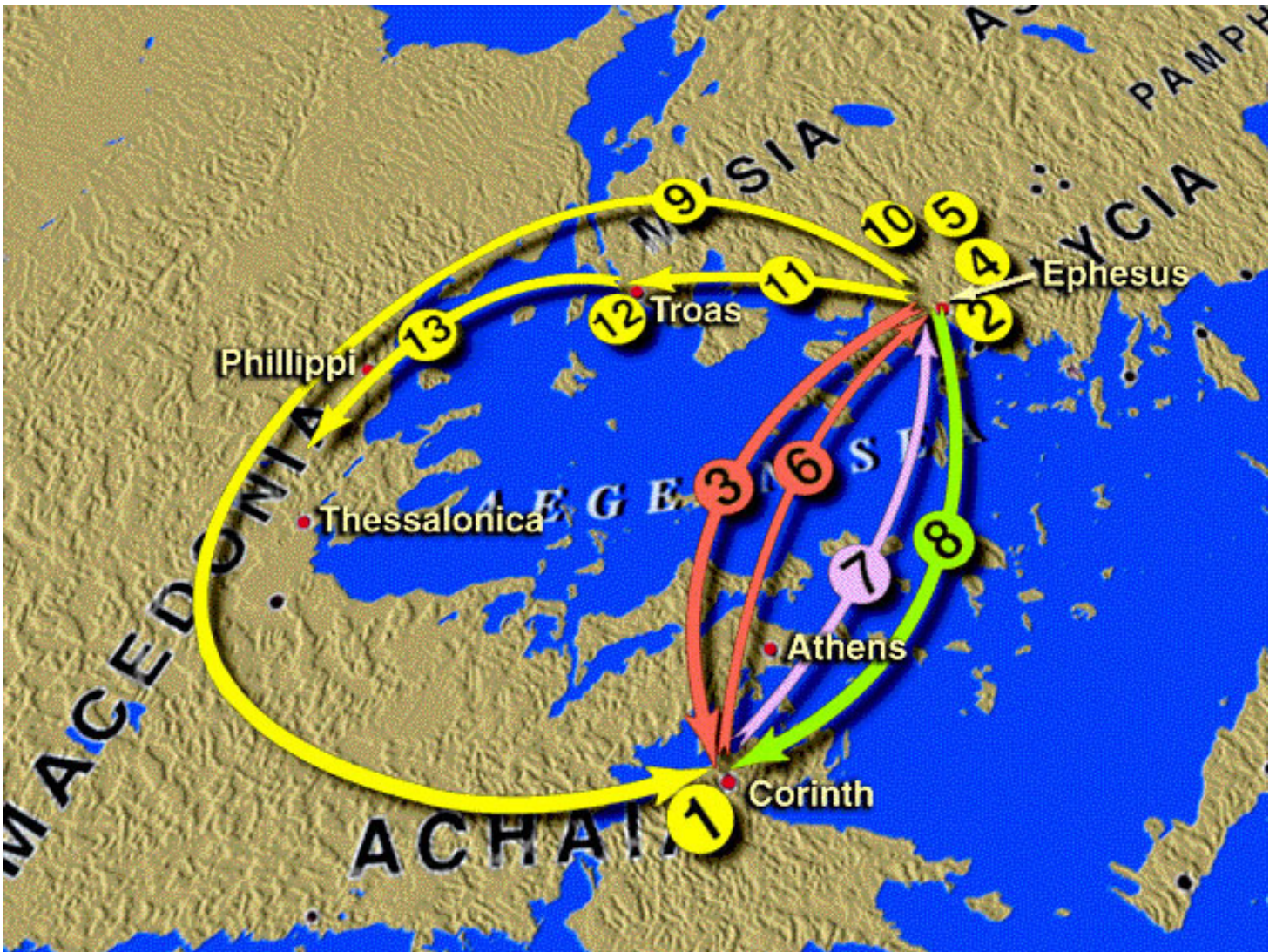
Write the letters circled above (in order) to find out.

the

# Paul in Anguish/Paul Joyful



# Paul's Letters and Visits to Corinth



1. Paul establishes church at Corinth during Second Missionary Tour (Acts 18:1–18).
2. Apollos comes to Ephesus and is taught by Aquila and Priscilla (Acts 18:24–26).
3. Apollos goes to Corinth (Acts 18:27, 28).
4. On his Third Missionary tour Paul labors at Ephesus about three years (Acts 19:1–10), possibly paying a visit to Corinth during this time (2 Cor. 12:14).
5. Paul writes a letter (now lost) to Corinth, warning against keeping company with immoral people who claim to be Christians (1 Cor. 5:9).
6. Apollos returns to Ephesus and declines to return to Corinth for the time being (1 Cor. 16:12).
7. Members of Chloe's household bring report of problems in Corinth (1 Cor. 1:11–12).
8. Paul sends Titus to Corinth (2 Cor. 12:17, 18; 2 Cor. 2:12, 13; 7:6).
9. Paul sends Timothy to Corinth via Macedonia (Acts 19:22; 1 Cor. 4:17; 16:10).
10. Paul writes 1 Corinthians from Ephesus (1 Cor. 16:8) to answer questions and issues in the church.
11. Paul leaves for Macedonia after a riot in Ephesus (Acts 19:22–20:1).
12. At Troas Paul hopes to meet Titus and to learn of effects of his letter (2 Cor. 2:12, 13).
13. Paul meets Timothy and Titus in Macedonia; Titus reports favorable reception of 1 Corinthians; Paul writes 2 Corinthians (2 Cor. 1:1; 7:6, 7, 13–16).

# Paul's Ministry to Corinth

## First Visit

Paul establishes the church (Acts 18:1-17).

## Painful Visit

Paul confronts the church (2 Cor. 2:1).

Paul misses his promised visit (2 Cor. 1:23, 2:1,13).

## Third Visit

Paul encourages the church (Acts 18:1-17) (2 Cor. 12:14, 13:1).

Second Missionary Journey

Third Missionary Journey

51 A.D.

56 A.D.

57 A.D.

**"Previous" Epistle**  
(1 Cor. 5:9)

**1 Corinthians**

**"Sorrowful" Letter**  
(2 Cor. 2:4)

**2 Corinthians**

Paste one verse near the picture of the apostle.

Picture of Philip  
Verse

Picture of Paul  
Verse

Picture of Bartholomew  
Verse

Picture of Peter  
Verse

Picture of Simon  
Verse

Picture of Thaddeus  
Verse

Picture of Matthew  
Verse

Picture of John  
Verse

Picture of Thomas  
Verse

Picture of James  
Verse

Picture of Andrew  
Verse

Picture of James  
Verse

# Christ Is the Cornerstone

# Apostle Portrait

Unscramble each of the clue words. Copy the letters in the numbered cells to the cells below with the same number. Use each of the words in the puzzle to complete the Portrait of an Apostle story.

RAHTOTUYI

CAMRIOPL   
1

RODW   
3

NIDRESIP   
4 2

DETAINE   
5

CEALLD   
6

NITEHCAG   
7

Paul was indeed an \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ. Paul and all the apostles were \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ by the risen Lord Himself. The apostles laid the foundation for Christ's Church. They spoke with \_\_\_\_\_ as they had been personally instructed by Jesus. Paul's apostolic \_\_\_\_\_ was God's \_\_\_\_\_ for the Corinthians at the time of this letter and it is God's Word for us today. The teachings and writings of an apostle are \_\_\_\_\_ by God in this great work of revelation and administration. Christians today are also called to go out and \_\_\_\_\_ God's Word.

# Apostle Portrait

Unscramble each of the clue words. Copy the letters in the numbered cells to the cells below with the same number. Use each of the words in the puzzle to complete the Portrait of an Apostle story.

RAHTOTUYI    A U T H O R I T Y

CAMRIOPL    P R O C L A I M  
 1

RODW    I S P I R E D

NIDRESIP    T R A I N E D  
 4 2

DETAINE    C A L L E D  
 5

CEALLD    T E A C H I N G  
 6

NITEHCAG    A P O S T L E  
 7

Paul was indeed an Apostle of Jesus Christ. Paul and all the apostles were called and trained by the risen Lord Himself. The apostles laid the foundation for Christ's church. They could speak with authority because they had been personally instructed by Jesus. Paul's apostolic teaching was God's Word for the Corinthians at the time of this letter and it is God's Word for us today. The teachings and writings of an apostle are inspired by God in this great work of revelation and administration. Christians today are also called to go out and proclaim God's Word.

**SEEK COMFORT  
IN OUR GOD THE FATHER**

**Comfort in God's Grace**

Ephesians 1:6-7; 2 Corinthians 9:8;  
1 Peter 5:10; James 1:17; Hebrews 4:16

**Comfort in God's Mercy**

Psalm 31:7; Psalm 103:8;  
Hebrews 4:15, 16;  
2 Corinthians 1:3, 4; Psalm 23:6

**Comfort with Confidence**

Philippians 4:13; Isaiah 40:31;  
Colossians 3:15; 1 Corinthians 1:30;  
Romans 8:38, 39

**Comfort in Repentance**

Matthew 9:13; Acts 5:31; Romans 10:9;  
2 Corinthians 7:10; 1 John 1:9

**Comfort in Obedience**

John 14:23; John 14:21; John 15:4,5,7;  
Romans 6:17; 1 Samuel 15:22

**Comfort in Deliverance**

Psalm 138:7; 1 Peter 1:3-5; 1 Corinthians  
10:13; Psalm 68:20; Psalm 56:13

**Comfort in Hope**

2 Timothy 1:9; Jude 24, 25;  
1 Peter 1:21;  
Psalm 33:18; Rom. 15:13

**Comfort in Sharing the  
Suffering with Christ**

Romans 8:35, 36; 2 Corinthians 4:11,12;  
Colossians 1:24; Philippians 3:10

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# 2 Corinthians 1:21a

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# Paul's Ministry to Corinth

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## Third Visit

Paul encourages the church (Acts 18:1-17) (2 Cor. 12:14, 13:1).

Second Missionary Journey

Third Missionary Journey

51 A.D.

56 A.D.

57 A.D.

"Previous" Epistle (1 Cor. 5:9)

1 Corinthians

Paul misses his promised visit (2 Cor. 1:23, 2:1,13).

## Painful Visit

Paul confronts the church (2 Cor. 2:1).

2 Corinthians

"Sorrowful" Letter (2 Cor. 2:4)

Cut out and fill in, on the timeline, these events mentioned in 2 Corinthians.

# Aim Questions

Answer the following questions about today's Bible Adventure.

1. Who wrote the book of 2 Corinthians? When?
2. From where did he write this letter?
3. What is the theme of the book?
4. What prompted Paul to write this letter?
5. Why was it important for the Corinthians to believe that Paul was an apostle of Jesus?
6. How did Paul find comfort?

*All Christians should find their comfort in God, not in any created thing. Likewise, those who have known the comforts of Christ should comfort others who are suffering. Follow the example of the Apostle Paul and seek comfort from God alone.*



*"Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ."  
2 Corinthians 1:21a*