

November 3, 2002

Colossians 2

Early Childhood

COL02EC

Jesus Is God's Treasure.

Materials I Need:

Memory Verse:

Two- and three-year-olds: Jesus is the beginning and has first place in everything.

Colossians 1:18

Four- and five-year-olds: Jesus is the beginning, the first-born from the dead; so that He Himself might come to have first place in everything. Colossians 1:18

Attribute of God emphasized in the book of Colossians: Jesus is God the Son, the head over all.

Aim Questions for 2's & 3's:

1. **Did Paul write a letter called Colossians?** *(Yes. Repeat the words, "Paul wrote Colossians.")*
2. **Did Paul say in his letter that Jesus was "in the beginning"?** *(Yes. Have the children say, "Jesus is in the beginning.")*
3. **Did Paul write that Jesus has first place in everything?** *(Yes. Say the memory verse.)*
4. **Did Paul say that Jesus is the head of the people in His church?** *(Yes. Jesus is head over all.)*
5. **Is Jesus the very best treasure of all?** *(Yes. Jesus is best of all.)*

Aim Questions for 4's, 5's & K:

1. **What was the name of the book Paul wrote?** *(Repeat the name, "Colossians.")*
2. **What did Paul tell the Colossians about Jesus?** *(Say the memory verse as you show the GF1 picture of the treasure chest.)*
3. **What did Paul mean when he said that Jesus is the head of the church?** *(Jesus is head over the people in His church. That means they obey and do whatever the Bible says.)*
4. **What did Paul say about people who make up stories about angels?** *(Paul said not to listen to people who tell long stories about angels that are not found in the Bible.)*
5. **Why do we give Jesus first place in our hearts?** *(Jesus is the best treasure of all.)*

Key for symbols:

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

Hook:

- Picture Center:** Bring numerous pictures of groups of people interacting with others. Have the children look at a picture and discuss what is going on. Encourage them to make positive comments about the people in the picture. Some questions to ask to stimulate conversation could be: "What do you think is happening in this picture? What is the child doing? How do you think he feels? How does his mother feel when her child is doing this? Does that make Jesus happy?" Paul continues telling people in his letter to the Colossians that those who love Jesus are kind to one another and forgive each other.

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- “Here Is the Church” Finger Play:** Teach the children the little finger play with finger actions. Explain to the children that Jesus’ church is not a building with a steeple, but the people who love and obey Jesus.
Here is the church, and here is the steeple.
Open the church and see all the people.
- “The Head Is in Charge” Center: (COL02ECGF2)** Bring books or journals (from the library) of the body showing internal views of the bones, muscles, blood vessels, and the brain. Talk about the brain in the head controlling all other parts of the body. In today’s Bible Adventure, Paul wrote to the new Christians saying that Jesus is in charge of everything just as the brain in the head is in charge of everything the body does. A simple alternative for younger children is to have the children draw lines on the GF2 page from different body parts to the head. Ask the children to draw a line from the hand to the head and say, “The hand obeys when the head tells it to do something.” Continue the same process with the knee, the foot, the elbow, etc. Tell the children that Jesus is in charge of the people in His church and we obey whatever He tells us in the Bible. Sing, “Jesus Is the Head,” as the children work on their GF2 pages.
- Jesus’ Church Center:** Materials needed: Large poster board or piece of drawing paper, two or three colors of tempera paints, shallow dishes, several paint shirts, soap, and water with towels. Lay the paper out on a table and have each child dip his hand into the tempera paint and onto the paper, repeating as many times as he wants. Continue until the paper is covered with hand prints. Hang the picture to dry and to be admired by the participants. Paul explained in his letter to the Colossians that the church Jesus builds is not a building but a group of people who all believe that Jesus is God, the Son.
- Treasure Chest Center:** Provide beautiful pieces of jewelry, crowns, wands, and other sparkling items for the children to play with and enjoy. Talk about how the pretty items make people feel good and important. In today’s Bible Adventure, Paul wrote that what Jesus gives His children makes them feel even better than pretty jewelry. Jesus gives His children kindness, forgiveness, and a tender heart toward others.
- Crayon Rubbing:** Cut several number ones out of poster board. Place each poster board under a piece of typing paper and let the children rub the sides of crayons over the paper to reveal the number one underneath. Review last week’s Bible Adventure and discuss how Jesus is number one because He was in the beginning with God when He created the world and everything in it. Jesus wants to be number one in our hearts.
- ④ **Treasure Hunt in the Sand:** Bring a large container of sand or cornmeal (or request one filled with rice or beans from the Children’s Workroom) and hide “treasures” in it. The treasures can be stickers, candy, small toys, pennies, or just small pieces of colored construction paper. Be sure to include some real treasures and some “not” treasures! Children can hunt until they find a treasure. The best treasure of all could be to find a “1” written on a piece of paper! Tell the children that we will learn about the best treasure of all in our Bible Adventure today.
- ④ **Wrapping Paper:** Using newsprint and stamps, let children make their own wrapping paper. (Small ink stamps are available in the Children’s Workroom.) Provide boxes for them to wrap. Place a Bible in one box and in the others place a vegetable, fruit, newspaper, CD, etc. Talk about packages that have treasures in them and others that have ordinary items. If a child opened up a box with an onion in it, would that be a treasure? If they had a box with a Bible in it, would that be a treasure? Trade boxes and see who has the treasure! If you could find inexpensive New Testaments, you could have one for each child.
- ④ **Match Game: (COL02ECGF6)** Using the GF6 pictures of an angel, games, a radio, a CD, toys, and several number ones and pictures of Jesus, place them picture-side down on a table. Be sure you have more than one picture of Jesus to match with the number ones. The object of the game is to make a match when they turn over a picture of Jesus and a number one. That is the only winning match!



Book:

Presentation Ideas -

- Color and mount the **COL02ECGF1** and **COL02ECGF2** pictures on construction paper. Show them as you tell the Bible Adventure. Save them for review as you continue through the book of Colossians.
- Bring some beautiful "treasures," perhaps a jewelry box with costume jewelry, and tell about your treasure in the box. In the Bible Adventure, we will learn what Paul said about the very best treasure of all. To young children, brightly-colored, inexpensive items look far more like treasures than expensive things.

Bible Adventure for 2's & 3's-

(Hold up a large number one and have the children say, "Jesus is first.") Last week in the book of Colossians, we learned that Jesus created the heavens and the earth in the beginning and that Jesus has first place in everything. Jesus is God the Son.

(Open a jewelry box or treasure chest and pull out beautiful treasures.) Paul wrote in his letter to the Colossians that knowing about Jesus is a very special treasure, better than these beautiful treasures I have here. Paul wrote, "Hearing about Jesus and loving Jesus is the best treasure of all."

(Show the GF1 picture.) Let's look at the treasure box on this picture and find out about the rich treasures that Paul said we find in Jesus.

(Point to the number one with the words "In the beginning" on it. Glue a sequin or jewel to it.) Paul wrote, "Jesus is the best treasure because He made all things in the beginning." *(Have the children say, "Jesus is in the beginning.")*

(Point to the number one with the words "First place." Glue a sequin or jewel on it.) Jesus is the best treasure because He has first place in everything. *(Have the children say, "Jesus has first place.")*

(Point to the number one with the words, "Head of the church.") Paul wrote, "Jesus is the head of His church." Jesus' church is not a building like we are meeting in today. Jesus' church is people like (teacher's name) and (teacher's name) who believe that Jesus died to forgive their sins. The people in Jesus' church want to obey Jesus and do whatever He says in the Bible.

(Show the GF2 picture.) Inside each of your heads is a brain. The brain tells the body what to do. The brain says to the hand, "Hand, pick up that paper," and the hand obeys. The brain says to the feet, "Feet, walk to the table," and the feet obey. All of the parts of the body obey the brain which is in the head.

Paul said, "Jesus is the head over the people in His church." When God says in the Bible, "Children, obey your parents," what do children who love Jesus do? They obey their parents because Jesus is the head of the church, and we obey our head.

(Show the review COL01ECGF2 picture of Paul writing a letter.) Paul had a lot to say to the Colossians about Jesus. Jesus is the best treasure of all and has first place in everything.

Prayer: Dear God, thank You for telling us all about Jesus in Colossians. He is the best treasure of all. He is first and we want to love Him most. In Jesus' name, amen.

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

(Hold up a large number one and have the children say, "Jesus is first.") Last week in the book of Colossians, we learned that Jesus was first in the beginning and that Jesus has first place in everything. Jesus is God the Son. That's amazing!

(Open a jewelry box or treasure chest and pull out beautiful "treasures.") Paul wrote in his letter to the Colossians that knowing about Jesus is a very special treasure, better than these beautiful treasures I have here. Paul wrote, "Hearing and knowing about Jesus is the richest treasure of all."

(Show the GF1 picture.) Let's look at this treasure box and find out some surprising things that Paul said about Jesus.

(Point to the number one with the words "In the beginning" on it. Glue a sequin or jewel to it.) Paul wrote, "It is a big surprise and a rich treasure to find out that Jesus is God and that He created all things in the heavens and on the earth in the beginning." *(Have the children say, "Jesus is in the beginning.")*

(Point to the number one with the words "First place" and glue a sequin or jewel to it.) It was a big surprise for the Colossian people to find out that Jesus has first place in the universe and should take first place in our hearts. Jesus is more important than anyone or anything. *(Have the children say, "Jesus has first place.")*

(Point to the number one with the words "First-born from the dead" and glue a sequin or jewel to it.) Paul wrote, "It is a surprise and a treasure to find out that Jesus was first-born from the dead." That means Jesus was the first person to come back to life from the dead. Because Jesus came back to life, He proves that we can also come back to life after we die. Isn't that good news? We can all live with Jesus forever in His special home in heaven, if we love Him. (Have the children say, "First-born from the dead.")

(Point to the number one with the words "Head of the church" and glue a sequin or jewel to it.) Paul wrote, "Here is the biggest surprise of all. The people who believe that Jesus is God and that He has first place over everything will be part of a group of people called the church." Jesus' church is not a building like we are meeting in today. Jesus' church is people who believe that Jesus died to forgive their sins. The people in Jesus' church believe that Jesus came back to life and is now alive in heaven. The people in Jesus' church want to live with Jesus forever in heaven someday. The people in Jesus' church want to obey Jesus in everything He says in the Bible. (Have the children say, "Jesus is head of the church.")

(Show the GF2 picture.) Inside each of your heads is a brain. The brain tells the body what to do. The brain says to the hand, "Hand, pick up that paper," and the hand obeys. The brain says to the feet, "Feet, walk to the table," and the feet obey. All of the parts of the body obey the brain which is in the head.

Paul said, "Jesus is the head over the people in His church." When God says in the Bible, "Children, obey your parents," what do children who love Jesus do? They obey their parents because Jesus is the head of the church. When God says in the Bible, "Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other," what do children who love Jesus do? They are kind to one another and forgive each other because Jesus is the head of the church, and we obey our Head.

(Show the GF1 picture again. Point to the number one with the words "Full of God" and glue a sequin or jewel to it.) Paul wrote in his letter, "Jesus is full of God." That's why we want to listen to God's truth about Jesus that is found in the Bible. Don't listen to anyone who tells you strange stories about Jesus and angels. If someone says to you, "I had a dream about an angel," and then he makes up a big story about an angel, don't believe him. Or, if someone says, "A friend of mine saw an angel," and then she tells you a big story about seeing an angel, don't believe her. Don't believe anything about angels or about Jesus that is not written in the Bible. Only Jesus is full of God and will give us the truth about angels. (Have the children say "Jesus is full of God.")

(Show last week's COL01ECGF2 picture.) Paul had a lot to write in his letter to the Colossians about Jesus, didn't he? Jesus is the richest treasure of all and has first place in everything. Do you want Jesus to be first place in your life? Do you want to be filled up with Jesus?

Prayer: Dear God, thank You for telling us all about Jesus in Colossians. He is the best treasure of all and deserves first place in our hearts. Help me love You and obey You first. In Jesus' name, amen.



Look:

- Aim Questions:** Write the Aim Questions on numbered papers and place them in the treasure box. As all the children gather around the treasure chest, talk about how Jesus is number one and first in everything. He was with God the Father during creation. He was the first one to die, then rise from the dead, and become alive again. He is the first boss of the church. He wants to be first in my heart. Ask a child to find question #1, etc.
- Snack:** Using a can of cheese and crackers, write "J-1" (Jesus is number one) on each cracker.
Snack Discussion: Talk about Jesus being the head over all. What is another word for "head?" Some terms that might come out are "boss" or "someone in charge." Discuss what kinds of things a boss would do. What bosses do the children know? Jesus is the boss over all the people in His church.
- Colossians Clothes Hanger Review: (COL01ECGF14)** Give each child their clothes hanger they worked on last week, another clothespin, and a Colossians Lesson #2 picture from last week's GF14 page. Give new children a hanger and clothespin. As the children color their Lesson #2 pictures, review the fact that Jesus is God, was in the beginning, and is now seated at the right hand of God in heaven. Sing "Colossians 1:18 Memory Verse Song" as the children hang their pictures with a clothes pin on the bottom wire of the clothes hanger. Save this craft and add a new picture for each of the four Colossians lessons. Send the clothes hanger home with the children at the end of the four weeks.

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- "Brain Says" Game:** (Simon Says) Ask the children to listen very carefully. The leader will perform various movements by saying "Brain says" and the children are to imitate the movement. If the leader neglects to say "Brain says" and the movement is done anyway, that child hugs a leader and continues in the game. Some suggestions for movements are as follows: two giant steps forward, one jump backward, spin around, stand on one foot, touch toes to nose, kneel down, roll over, stretch and yawn, jump with feet apart and together, run in place, jump high, flap arms like a bird, etc. "Our brains tell our bodies what to do just like Jesus tells us what to do because He is the head over all of us who love Him."
 - Treasure Chest Envelope: (COL02ECGF5)** Each child can decorate his own envelope with stickers and stamps. In the envelope place a copy of the Colossians 1:18 memory verse. Place empty 3" x 5" cards in the envelope for the children to glue the GF5 pictures on. Encourage the children to talk about these things that make Jesus number one and head over all.
 - Treasure Hunt for Hidden Pictures:** Hide stickers of Jesus (one for each child in the class today) all around the room. The children may begin looking for their own sticker when they hear you clap your hands or whistle. Apply these stickers to the end of tongue depressors, one per child. Use these depressors with the "Jesus Is First" Activity Page in the Took section of the lesson.
 - Treasure Box and Bibles: (COL02ECGF7)** Give each child a Bible page to color. During Hook time the children could have helped you color a treasure box on a large piece of newsprint. Let them glue their Bibles to the treasure box picture, talking about how the Bible tells us about Jesus who is number one and our best treasure.
 - Fruit Loop Chain: (COL02ECGF9)** On a paper plate, place fruit loops and a piece of yarn. First let the children count out a certain number of loops to eat. After they finish, tell them that they obeyed, and that makes you happy. In the same way, they are to obey the words in the Bible. That would make you really happy! Tie one end of the yarn around a small piece of paper. Let children lace the loops and then tie off the other end. You could ask them to place the cereal on the yarn in a color pattern if you want a challenge for older children. Position these chains in the shape of letters and numbers on the paper plate. Write the child's first initial. Write a "J" for Jesus and a number "1." Younger children can simply string the GF9 numbers onto their fruit loop necklaces.
 - Mystery Sock Box:** Place a large sock over the end of a cylindrical oatmeal box. Cut the toe section of the sock off so the children can reach in. If they feel an object, they guess what it is. If they feel a Bible, they yell, "Jesus is number one!"
 - Ball Toss:** Sitting in a circle on the floor, roll a soft ball from one child to the next. When a child receives the ball, she says "Jesus is number one" as fast as she can and rolls the ball to someone else. The child rolling the ball could say "Jesus wants first place in (child's name) heart" as he rolls the ball to him.
 - Bible Bookmark: (COL02ECGF4)** Cut the bookmarks out of poster board. Glue colored yarn around the number one; tie yarn in the hole at the top. Give each child a Jesus sticker to place on her bookmark to remember to make Jesus number one in her life. Jesus is number one in creation, number one to raise from the dead, and number one boss in the church. Glue the memory verse on the other side of the bookmark.
 - ② **Beach Ball Bounce:** Go outside and form a large circle with the children. Throw several beach balls into the circle; and when one rolls to a child, he may kick or push it back to the center of the circle. A leader can be introduced in the center who will gently guide the balls to go out of the circle through holes he finds in the circle. The people in the circle should work together to keep the balls in the center. Assign a leader outside the circle to chase the balls that escape from the circle. The phrase, "Jesus is first," can be repeated in the game, either when a child kicks the ball back to the center of the circle or when the ball slips out of the circle.
 - ④ **Follow the Maze:** Ask a teacher to take all the students out in the hallway and practice the memory verse together while you bring one child into the room at a time. The child follows the masking tape trail around the room. If there are intersections in the path, use an arrow on the tape to show the way to go. At the end of the path is a treasure chest for the child to open. Inside is a picture of Jesus or a Jesus sticker for the children to use in decorating their GF4 Bible bookmarks. Talk about Jesus being our number one treasure.

④ **Follow the Yarn:** Use long lengths of four different colored yarns that you place under tables, over chairs, taped to wall, etc. Use a different path for each color. They will intersect in places. Divide the children into four teams. They are assigned a color and must follow that colored yarn and see who gets to the treasure box first. They get to look inside and find a Bible. Talk about the Bible helping us know Jesus and put Him first in our lives.

④ **Jesus First in What We Think, See, Hear, and Say!** Draw a circle head with round eyes, big ears and a happy mouth on a large sheet of newsprint and tape it on the floor. Children must stand with their feet on the edge of the paper and take turns dropping pennies on the eyes, ears, mouth, and head (thinking).

Songs:

Colossians 1:18 Memory Verse Song for 2's & 3's (tune: "Have You Ever Seen a Lassie?")
Je-e-sus is the beginning, beginning, beginning.
Je-e-sus is the beginning
And He has first place.

Colossians 1:18 Memory Verse Song for 4's & 5's (tune: "Have You Ever Seen a Lassie?")
Je-e-sus is the beginning, the first-born from the dea-ad;
So that He Himself might come to have
First place in everything.

Jesus and Me (tune: "London Bridge")
Jesus gives me (Raise arms, palms up.)
Rules to live, rules to live, rules to live. (Form hands like an open Bible.)
Jesus gives me rules to live. (Form hands like open Bible.)
I'll obey Him! (Clap to rhythm of words.)

You and I Will Be Kind Today (tune: "Mulberry Bush")
This song could be sung during transition times throughout the morning.
You and I will be ki-ind today,
Kind today, kind today.
You and I will be ki-ind today,
To everyone we see-ee.

Jesus Is the Head (tune: "Farmer in the Dell")
Jesus is the head, Jesus is the head,
Jesus tells us what to do.
Jesus is the head.

God's people will obey; God's people will obey;
God's people will obey;
Jesus is the head.

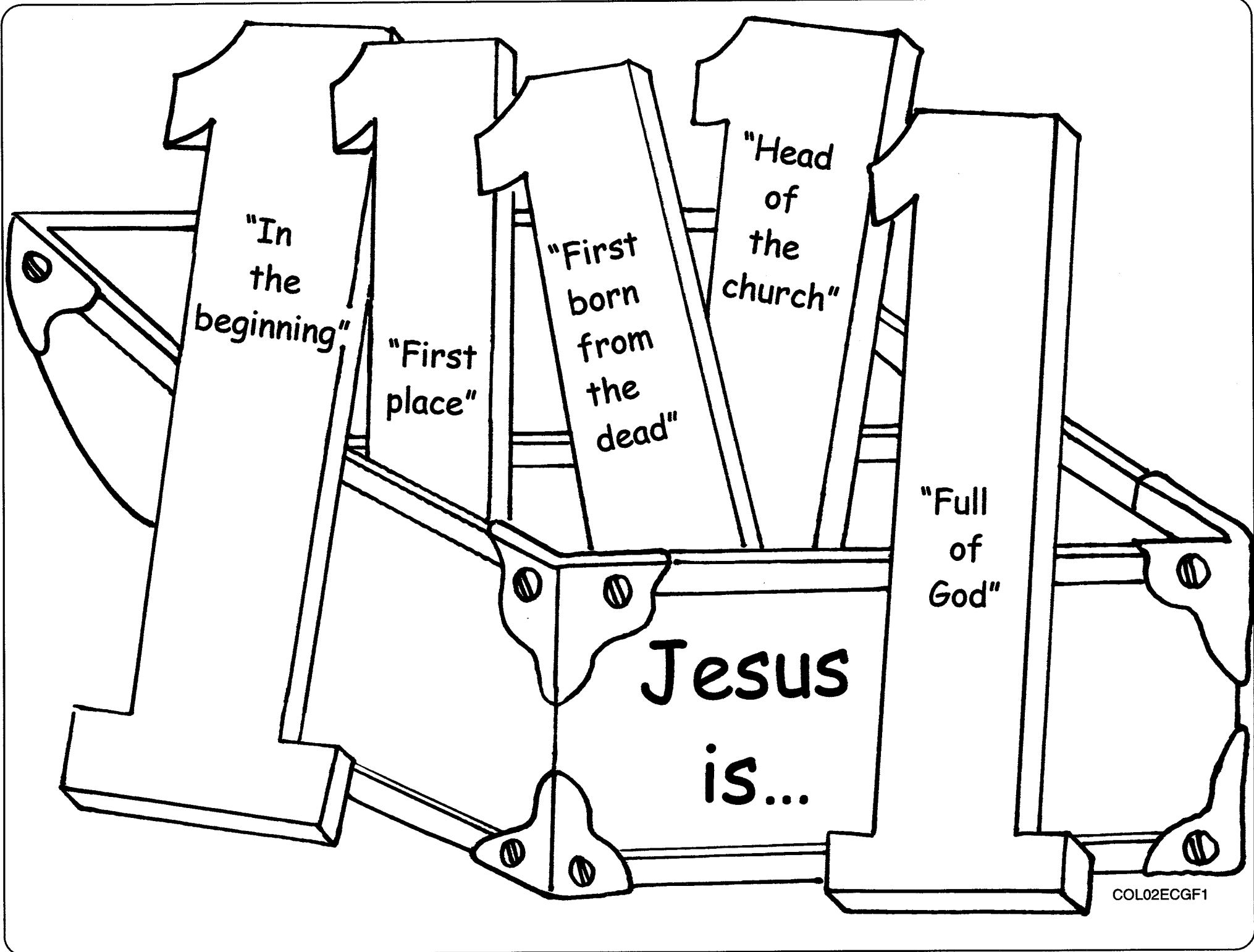
Number One (tune: "This Old Man")
Number one, number one.
Jesus i-is number one!
With a clap and a stomp, let's sho-out, "Hurrah!"
Jesus i-is number one.

Jesus Is the Beginning (tune: "London Bridge")
Jesus is the beginning, beginning, beginning.
Jesus wants to be first place
In (child's name) heart.
Say the name as you catch the child in the "bridge." Make sure every child is caught and hears his name.



Took:

- Number One: (COL02ECGF3)** Provide a large cut-out number one on stiff paper for each child. A selection of the following materials could be made available to the children to decorate their numbers: Stickers, glitter, sparkle gems, tissue scraps, material samples, color crayons, or markers. A tongue depressor could be taped to the back of the number so it could be held up high by the child. In today's Bible Adventure, Paul told the people in his letter to the Colossians that Jesus has first place in everything.
- “Jesus Is First” Activity Page: (COL02ECGF5)** Color the GF5 pictures of creation, cross, church people, heart, and treasure box. Before class, cut on the lines below each picture. Using a tongue depressor with a Jesus sticker on the end, push the depressor up in front of each picture and tell how Jesus is first in creation, how He died on the cross but rose from the dead, that He gives new life to people in His church, and that He deserves first place in our hearts.
- Sun Catcher: (COL02ECGF3 and COL02ECGF8)** Give each child one half of a piece of construction paper and fold it in half. Trace around a number one on one side. Assist the children in cutting out the “1” through both pieces at the same time. Open the paper and place glue around the edges of each “1” and glue a piece of waxed paper over the page. Next, place tissue paper that has been torn into tiny pieces or strips. Do not glue. Place glue around the edge of the paper on one side and press the other side over it to keep the waxed paper sides inside. Punch two holes in the top of each card and thread an eight-inch length of yarn through the holes. Tie knots in each end of the yarn toward the back of card. Glue a GF8 memory verse on the front of the sun catcher card.
- Preschool Page for Parents: (COL02ECPPP)** 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.



"In the beginning"

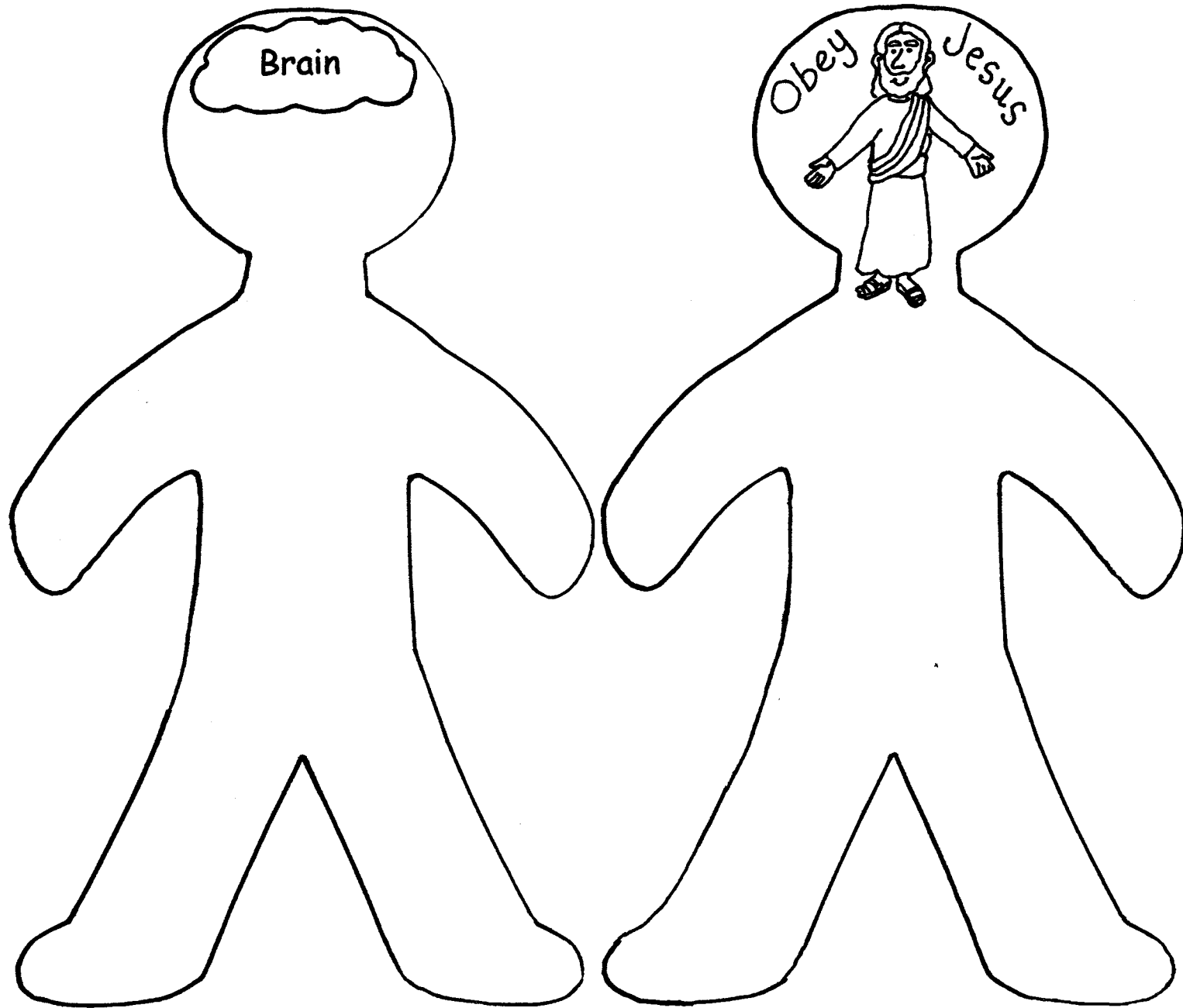
"First place"

"First born from the dead"

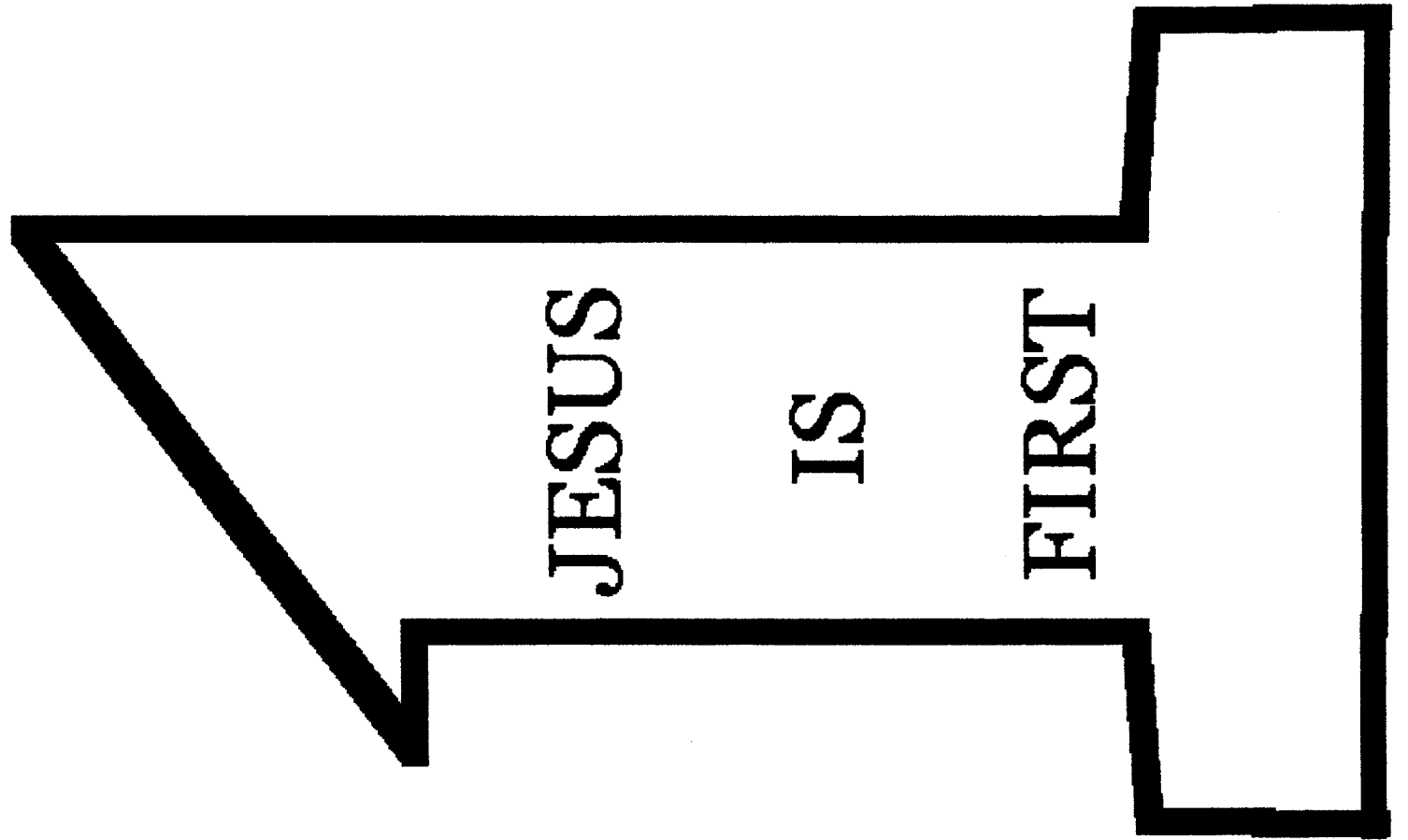
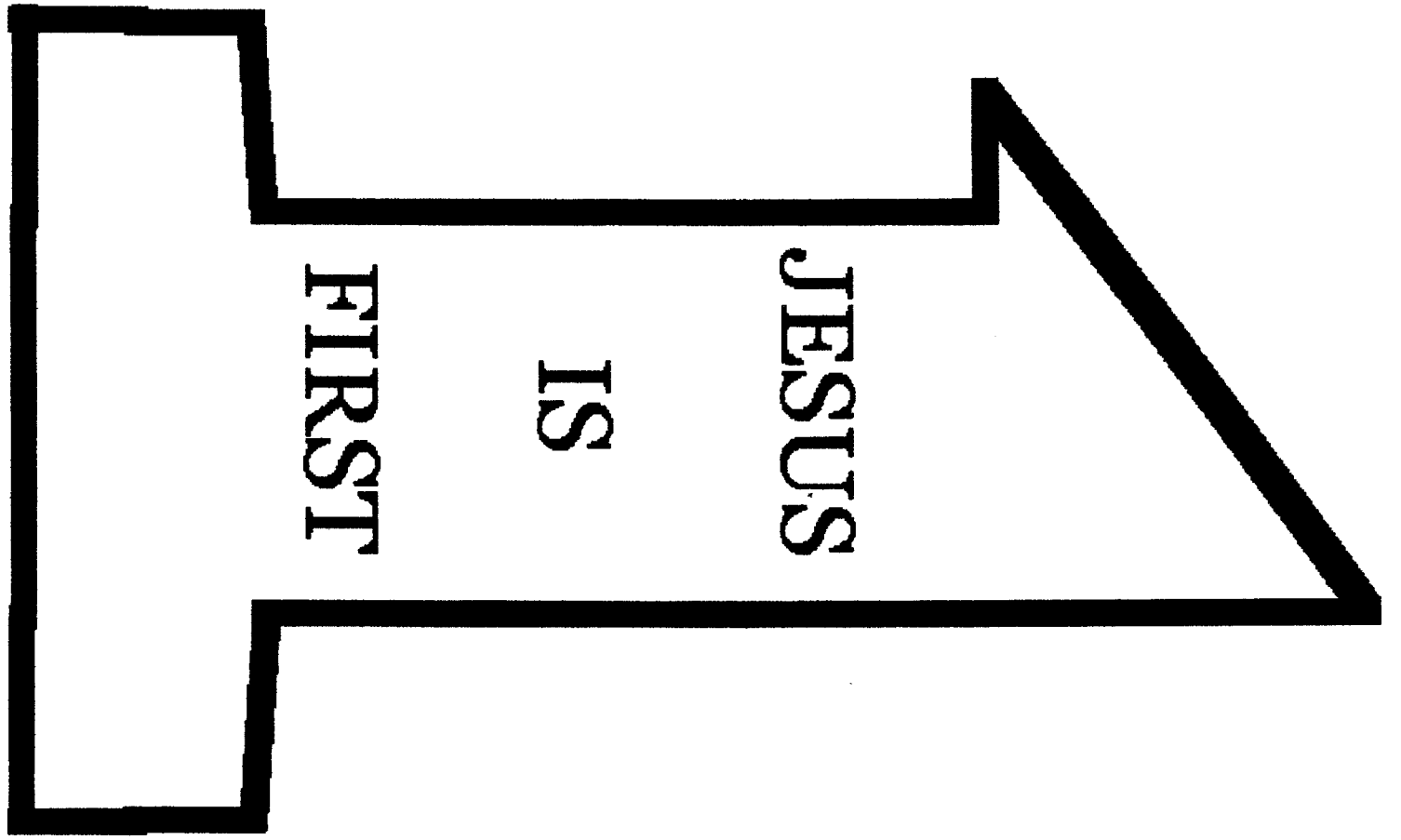
"Head of the church"

"Full of God"

Jesus is...



Jesus is the head of the church body, and we want to obey Him.



Bible Bookmark

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Jesus is the beginning,
the first-born from the
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Colossians 1:18

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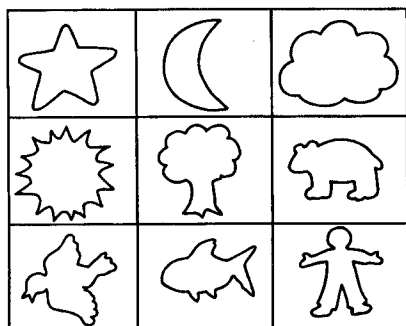
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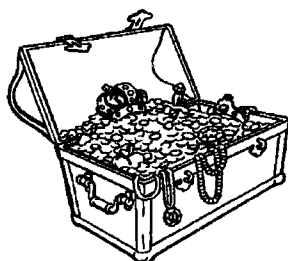
Jesus was the
Creator.



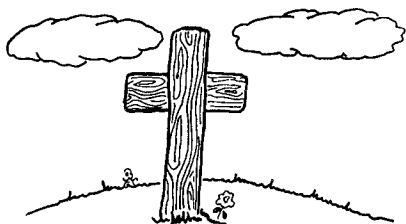
Jesus is boss of
the church.



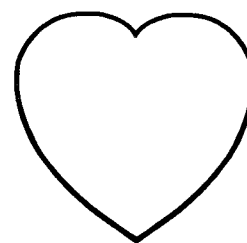
Jesus is a
treasure!



Jesus rose
from the dead.



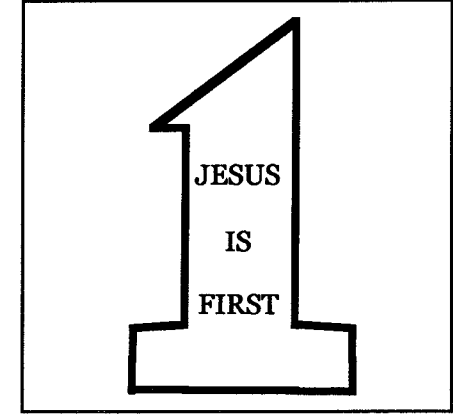
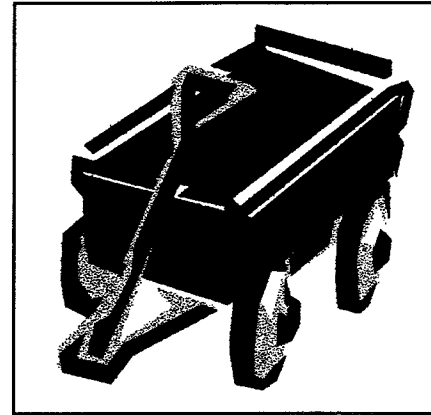
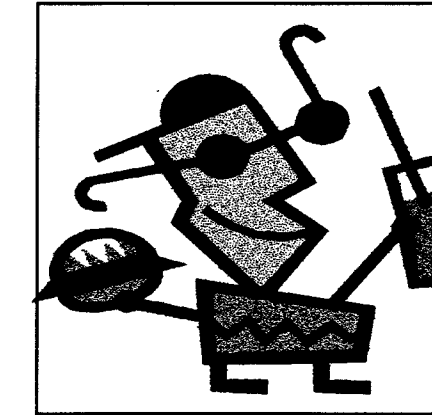
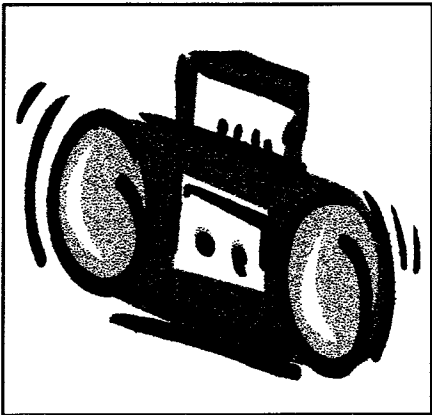
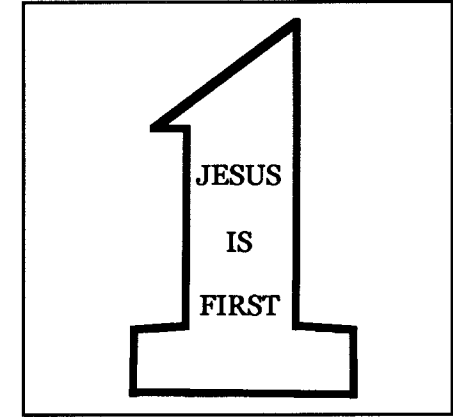
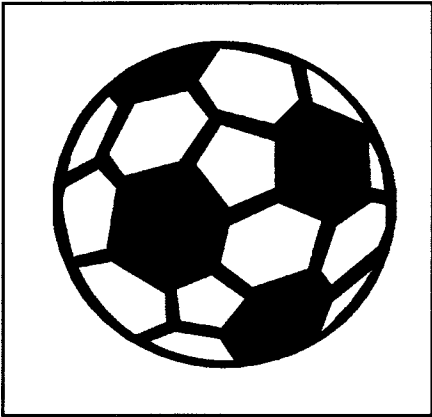
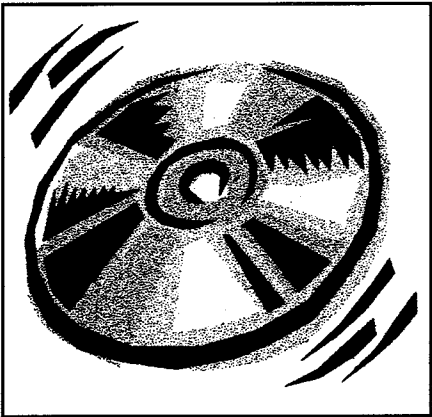
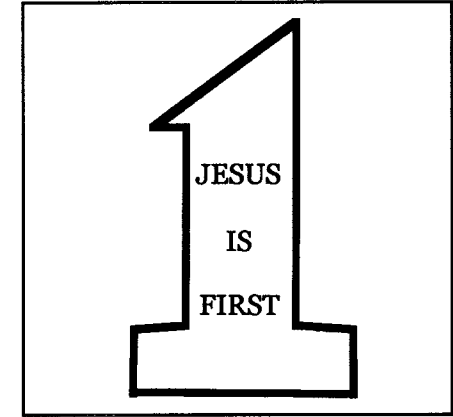
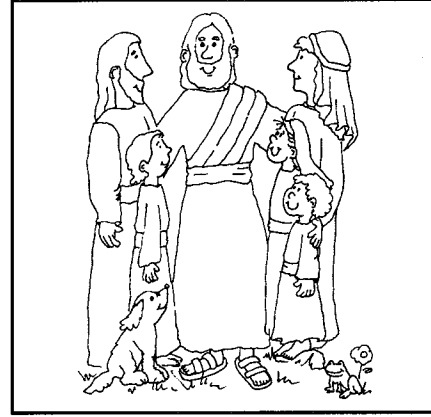
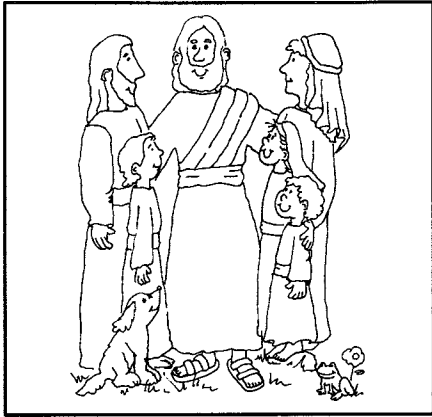
Jesus wants
first place in
my heart.

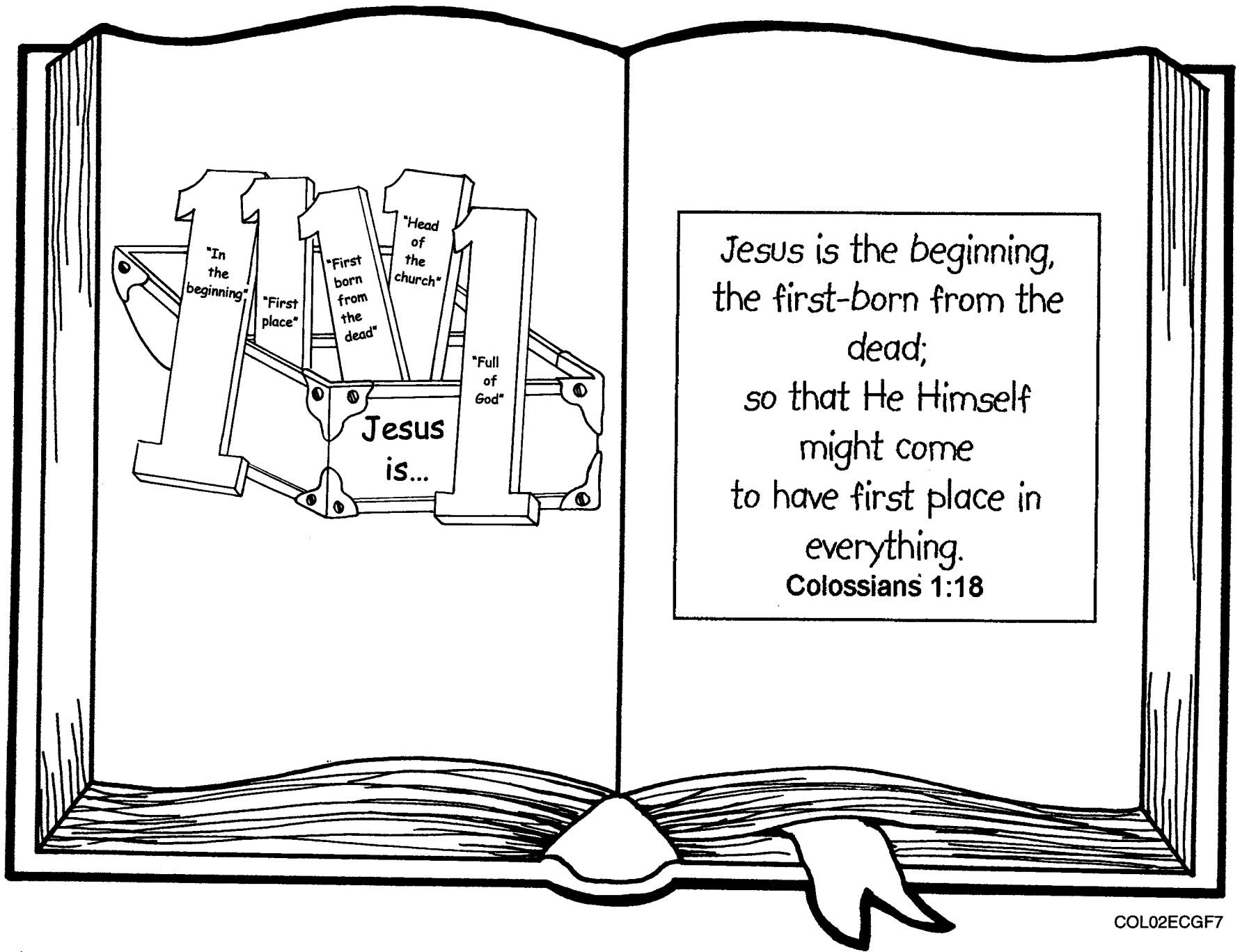


Jesus is the beginning, the first-born from the dead;
so that He Himself might come to have first place in everything.

Colossians 1:18

Match Game for Colossians Lesson Two





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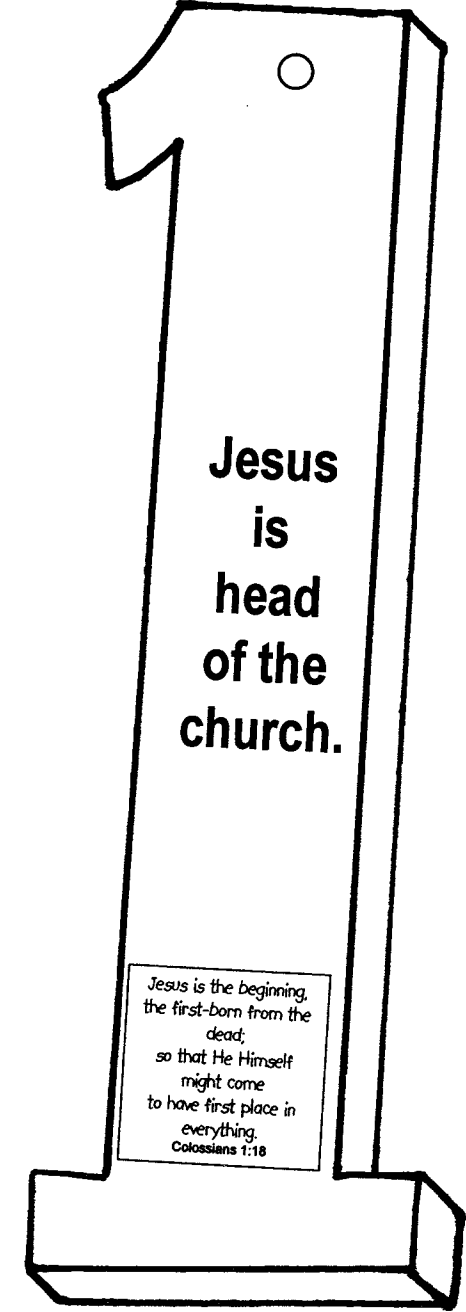
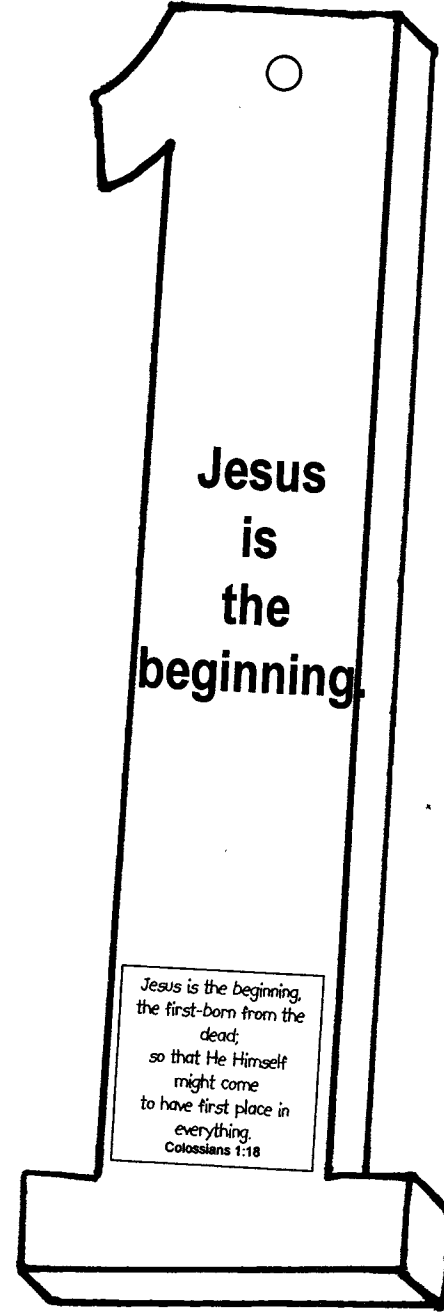
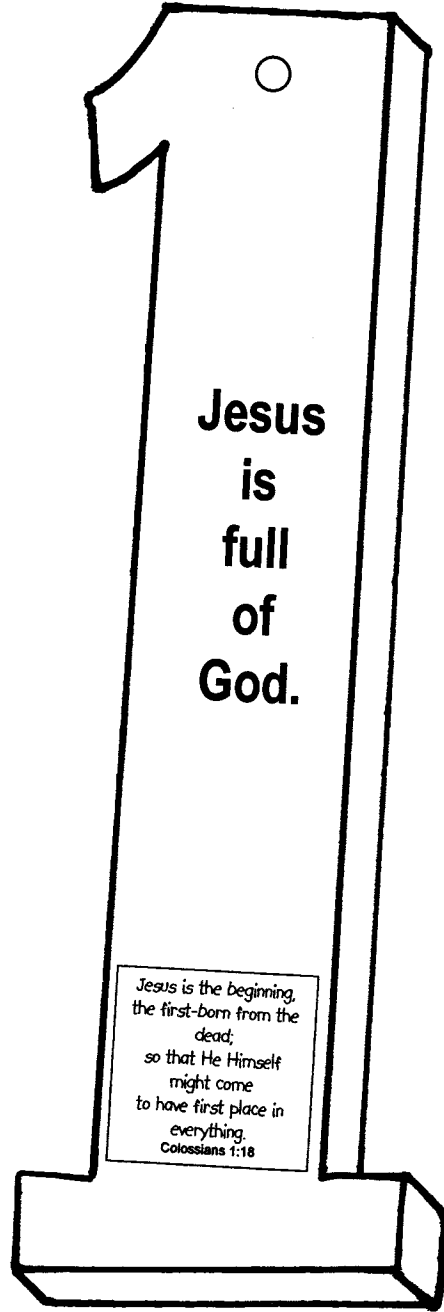
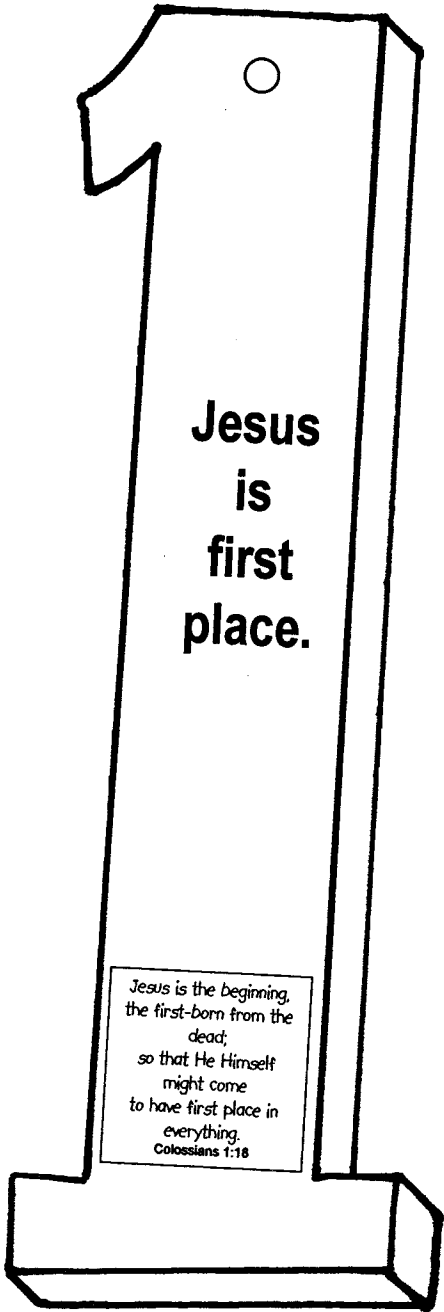
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November 3, 2002
Colossians Chapter 2



This is what I learned today!

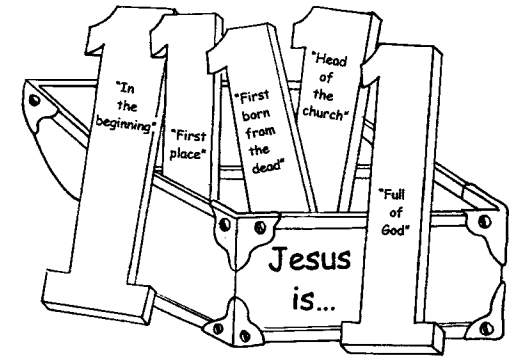
Today we learned that knowing Jesus is a very special treasure. Jesus is the best treasure because He made all things in the beginning. Jesus is the Head over the people in His church. His church is made up of people who believe that Jesus died to forgive their sins. They want to obey Jesus and do everything He says in the Bible. The Bible tells us to obey our parents and be kind to one another. If we obey our parents and are kind, it shows we love Jesus and we are obeying the Head of the church. Paul wrote the Colossians telling them to only listen to God's truth about Jesus that is found in the Bible.

Today's Memory Verse

Jesus is the beginning, the first-born from
the dead; so that He Himself might come
to have first place in everything.

Colossians 1:18

My Best Treasure



Cover an empty Kleenex box with sequins to make a treasure chest. Discuss with your child what a treasure Jesus is. Review the memory verse because God's Word is a treasure. Write the verse and put it into the box.

Play the "Brain Says" game like you would play "Simon Says," but substitute "Brain says." The brains in our heads tell our bodies what to do just like Jesus tells us what to do. He is the head over all of us who love Him.

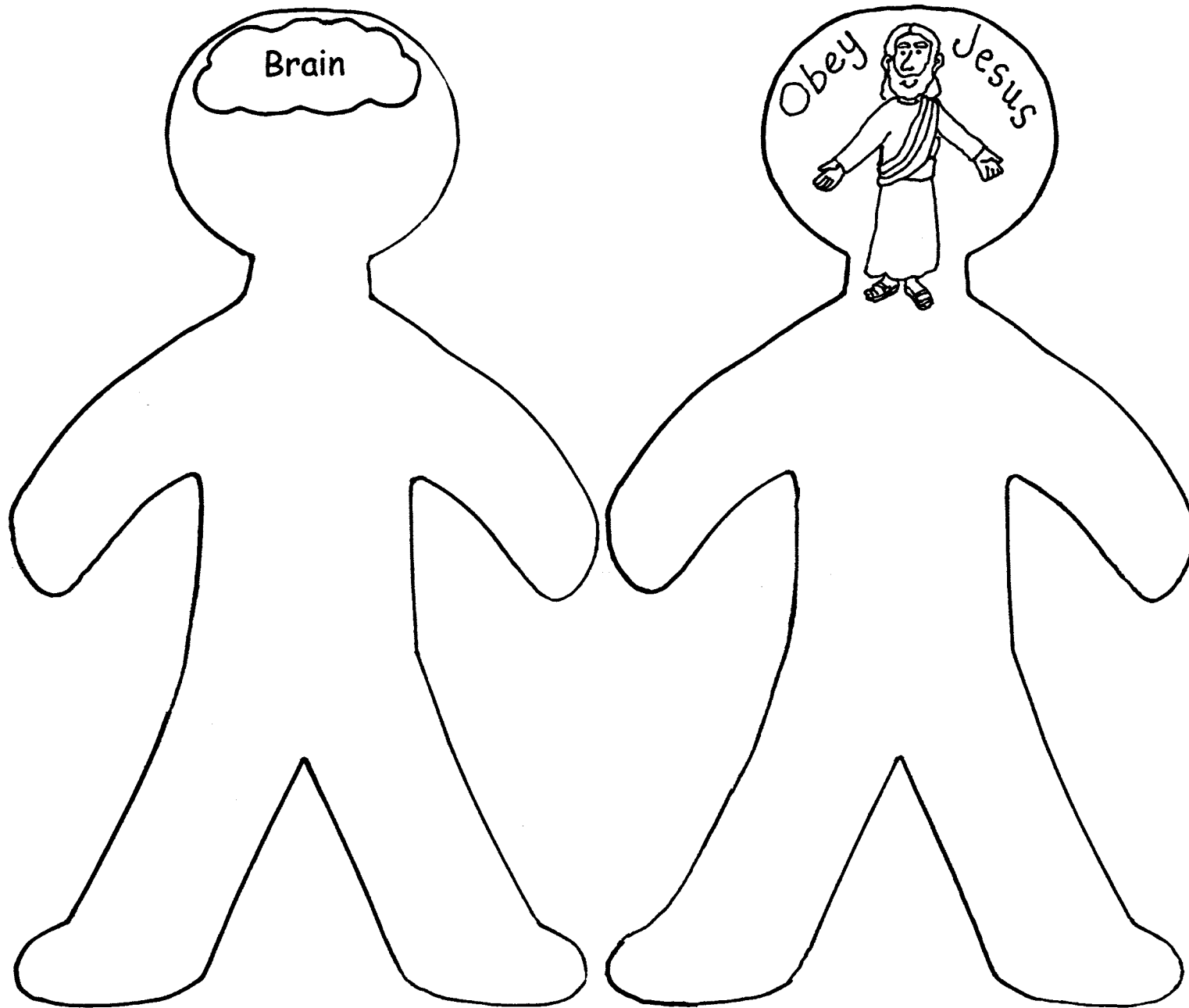
Jesus Is the Head

(tune: "Farmer in the Dell")

Jesus is the Head. Jesus is the Head.
Jesus tells us what to do.
Jesus is the Head.

God's people will obey. God's people will obey.
God's people will obey--
Jesus is the Head.

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



Jesus is the head of the church body, and we want to obey Him.