

GRADES  
K-6

# UNDERSTANDING CHRISTIAN SYMBOLS

# Rainbows

Printable Lesson Kit



**M** **GHTY MESSAGES**



# THANK YOU

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## LESSON OVERVIEW



### THE RAINBOW MIGHTY MESSAGES

This lesson contains many activities to help children in K-6 grade understand the subject. Feel free to fix and match activities to those that you feel will be age appropriate to your kids!



#### How to Use the Lesson Kit:

This lesson contains many activities to help children in K-6 grade understand the subject. Feel free to fix and match activities to those that you feel will be age appropriate to your kids!



#### WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Scripture Reading & Lesson
- Discussion Questions
- Printable Craft
- Coloring Page
- Wordsearch
- Crossword Puzzle
- Learning Lookups Journaling
- Quiz
- Reference Sheet
- Certificate of Completion
- Answer Page



#### MATERIALS LIST:

- Crayons
- Glue sticks
- Scissors
- Pencils or pens
- Bibles (electronic or hardcopy)





## SCRIPTURE & LESSON

### PASSAGE (NIV): VARIOUS PASSAGES ABOUT THE SYMBOL

Read the following excerpts as shown (NIV translation), or read from your chosen Bible translation:



#### **Genesis 9:12-16**

<sup>12</sup> And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: <sup>13</sup> I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup> Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, <sup>15</sup> I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. <sup>16</sup> Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth."

#### **Ezekiel 1:28**

Like the appearance of a rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so was the radiance around him. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD.

#### **Revelation 4:3**

And the one who sat there had the appearance of jasper and ruby. A rainbow that shone like an emerald encircled the throne.

#### **Revelation 10:1-4**

Then I saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven. He was robed in a cloud, with a rainbow above his head; his face was like the sun, and his legs were like fiery pillars. <sup>2</sup> He was holding a little scroll, which lay open in his hand. He planted his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land, <sup>3</sup> and he gave a loud shout like the roar of a lion. When he shouted, the voices of the seven thunders spoke. <sup>4</sup> And when the seven thunders spoke, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven say, "Seal up what the seven thunders have said and do not write it down."

## Questions for Children

1. The first mention of a rainbow in the Bible is in the very first book—Genesis. It's in the story of Noah's Ark, and the sight of the rainbow was for Noah and his family. It was a sign of comfort that this scary flood would never happen again—not to them or their descendants. Have you ever seen an act of nature like a rainbow that brought you comfort? Do thunderstorms or big waves or raindrops make you think of God? In what sense?

2. The rainbow contains a lot of colors. It sometimes symbolizes God's majestic beauty, because God has a lot of aspects to his personality. He is like us, only his emotions are bigger—his love, his anger, his devotion are things we feel in a smaller sense. Think of your own love. Think of something you love and how it makes you feel. Then think of God's love. How is it different?

3. The two times rainbows are mentioned in the Book of Revelation, they are surrounding an incredible being. The first one in Revelation 4, with jasper and rubies, is thought to be God the Father. The second one is an angel with great power, obviously. **Why would powerful beings in heaven either produce or reflect lots of colors?** This is a fun question for which there are no historic answers; however, it can get kids thinking of heaven being a real and concrete place, not just a dim thought. **What two elements are needed in order for there to be a rainbow? Water (or mist) and light. What does this tell you about substances in heaven?** *They resemble substances from down here; water and light are obviously present in heaven.*



## TEACHER'S MIGHTY MESSAGE

Throughout your message, keep visible a copy of your coloring sheet, containing the symbol, which you can point to.

Using of acts of nature is big with God. He uses them to show us his power and devotion to his creation. He created a rainbow for Noah, and that rainbow shows up on some powerful beings in heaven. Other acts of nature occurred at Jesus' death on the cross. There was an earthquake and an eclipse, or utter darkness during the middle of the day.

When the prophet Elijah asked to see God, God first showed him a windstorm, an earthquake, and a brushfire before speaking in a soft voice. God used these acts of nature to show Elijah that he wasn't as scary as Elijah had been thinking.

God used the Great Flood, probably the biggest act of nature to prevail on the earth, to erase the horrors of mankind.

God used a hailstorm to show the Egyptians they needed to let the Hebrew people go.

Jesus calmed a storm to show how nature listened to his voice.

The rainbow is a symbol of God's promises. It is the only one of these famous acts of nature that became a Judeo-Christian symbol. Whenever we see acts of nature, we should know that God made them to serve the world and to serve his purposes. And among God's promises is the fact that he will never leave us, even in the stormiest of times.







## PRINTABLE CRAFT



### MATERIALS:

- 3D Rainbow Printable Craft File (two pages)
- White Cardstock or White Paper
- Coloring Utensils
- Scissors
- Glue



### PREPARATION:

- Print one copy of 3D Rainbow Craft for each student

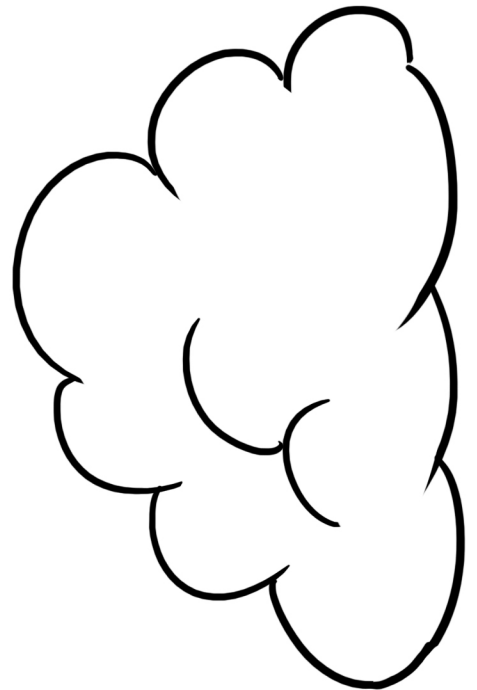
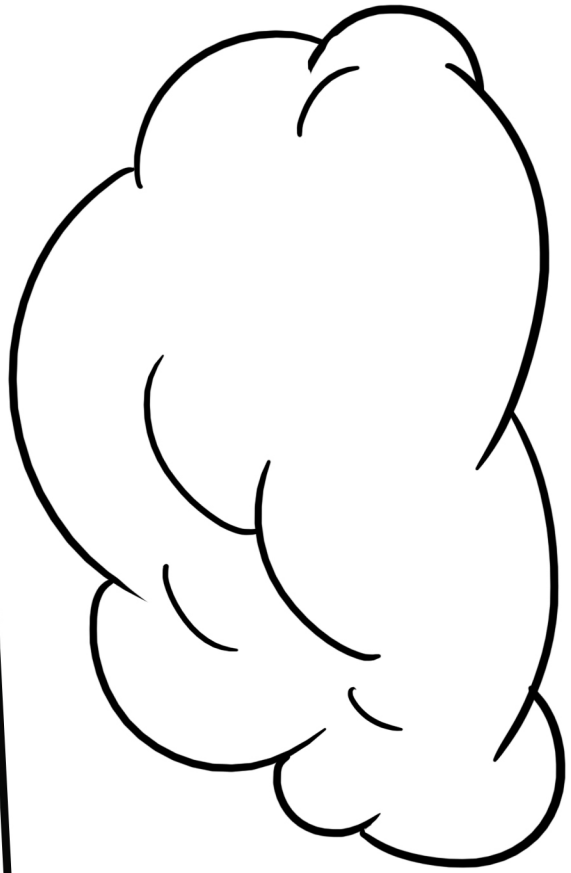
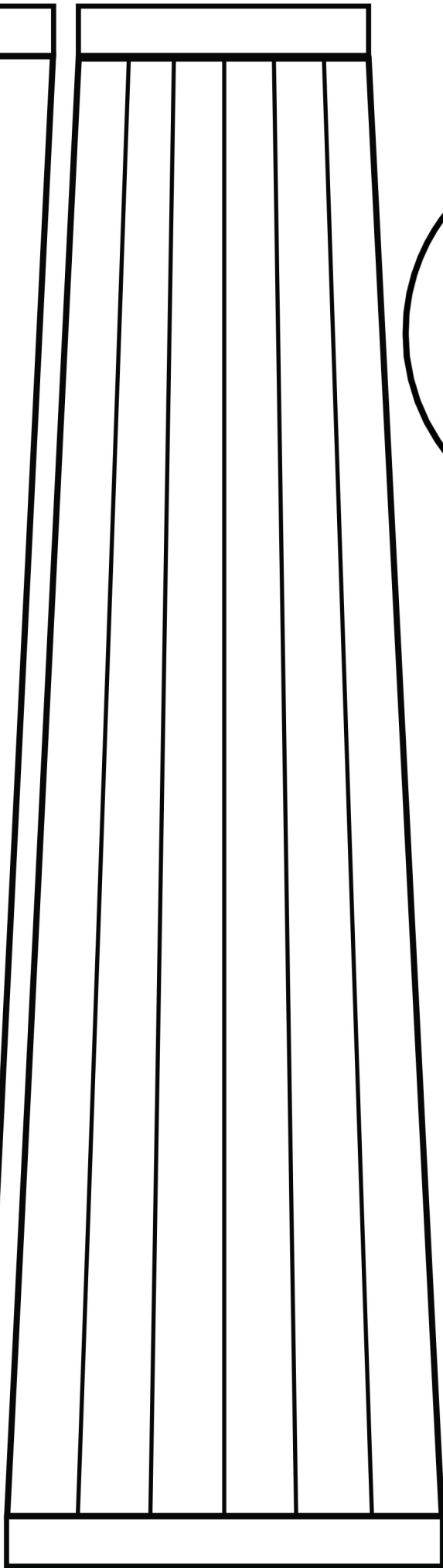
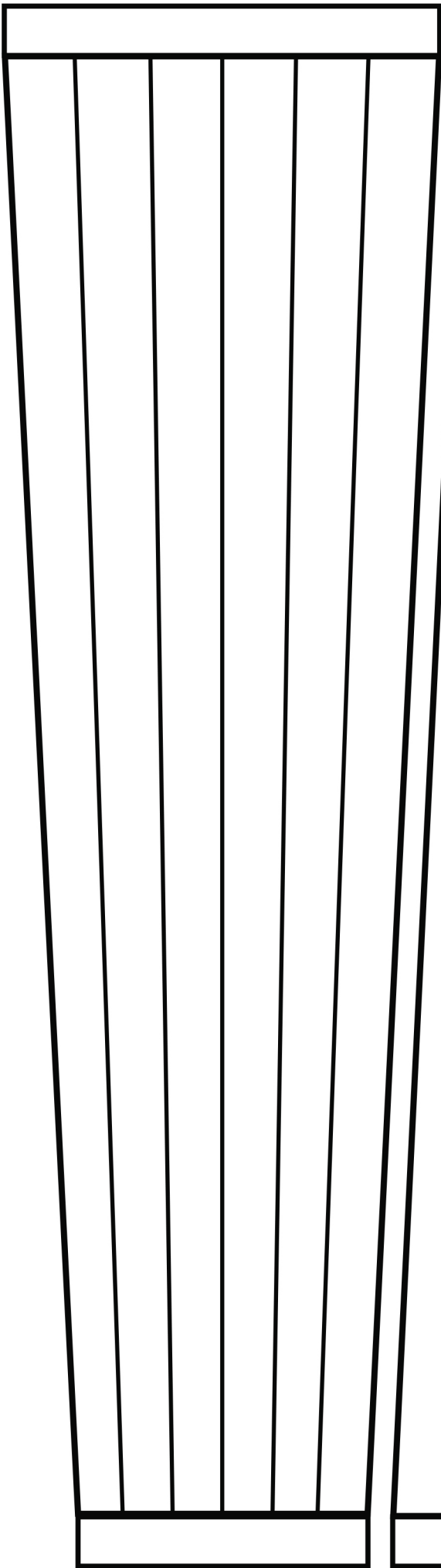
### INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENTS:

1. Color pages as desired. To get correct order to rainbow, place rainbow pieces with smaller end on left side and starting at the top, color red to purple for each piece
2. Carefully cut out pieces
3. Glue two rainbow pieces together, matching up small and large ends.
4. Glue small tab to small box on guide page, red side on top. Twist rainbow piece and glue large side to large box to create bow shape
5. Glue cloud pieces to cover tabs

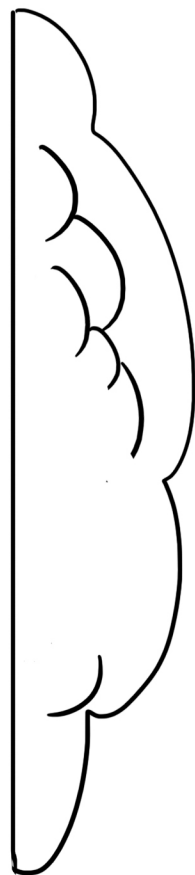
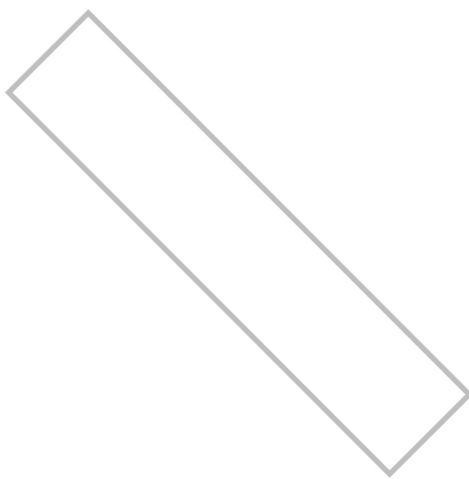
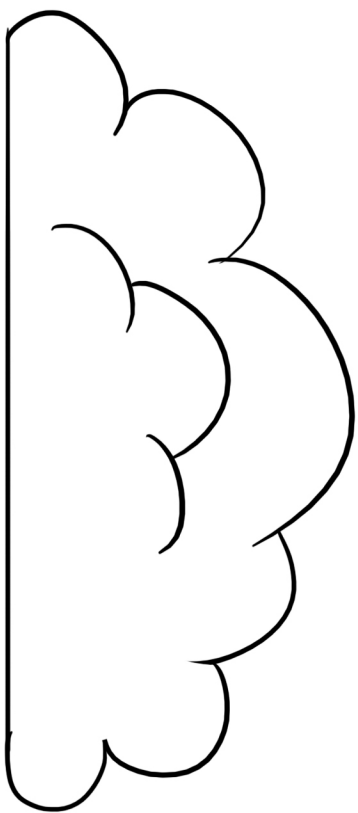
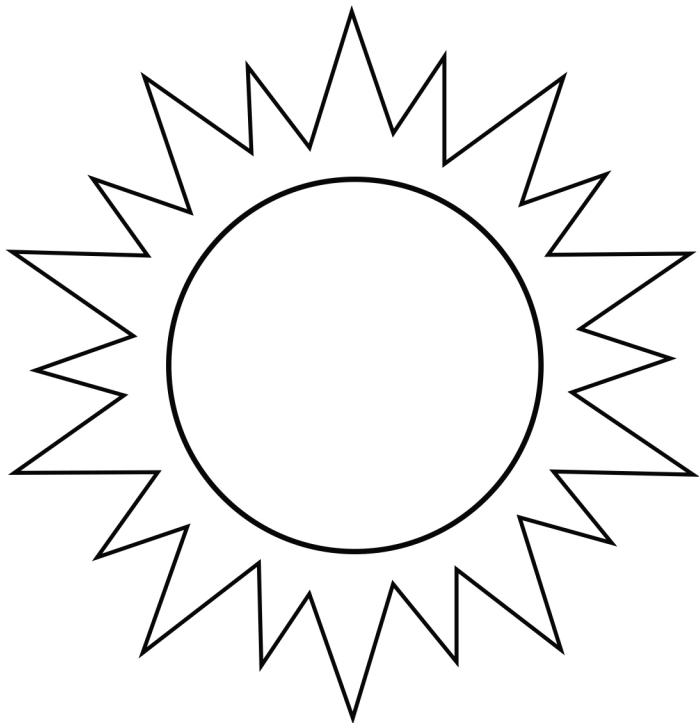
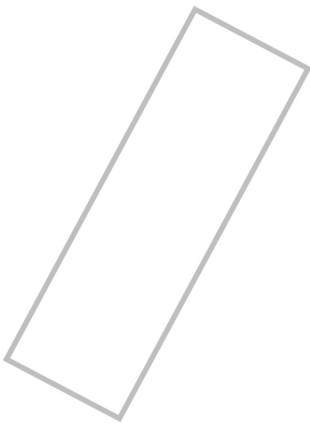
### Introduction or Conclusion

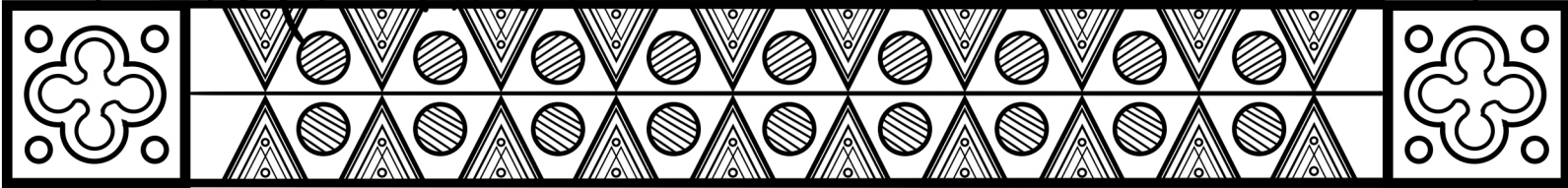
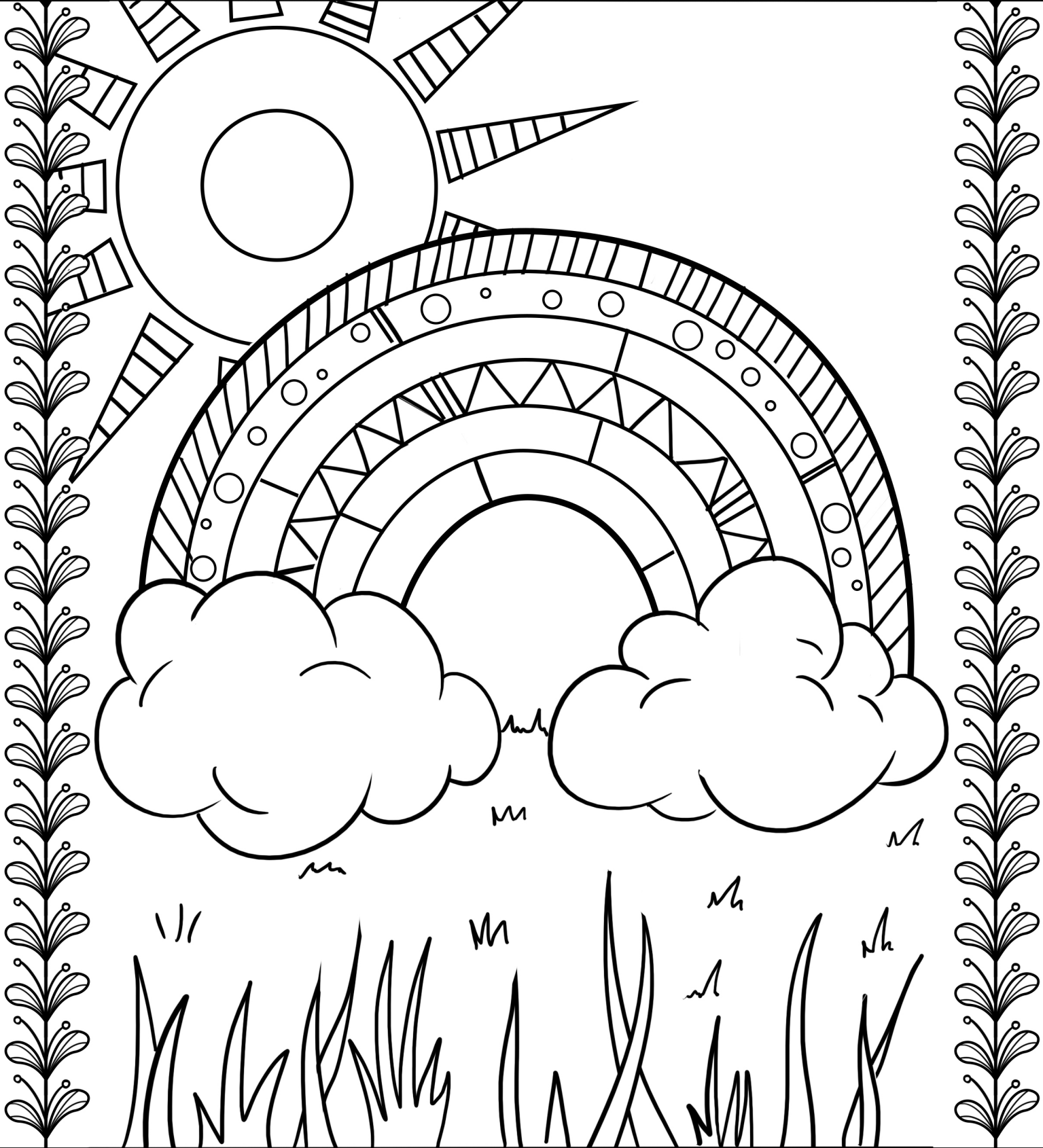
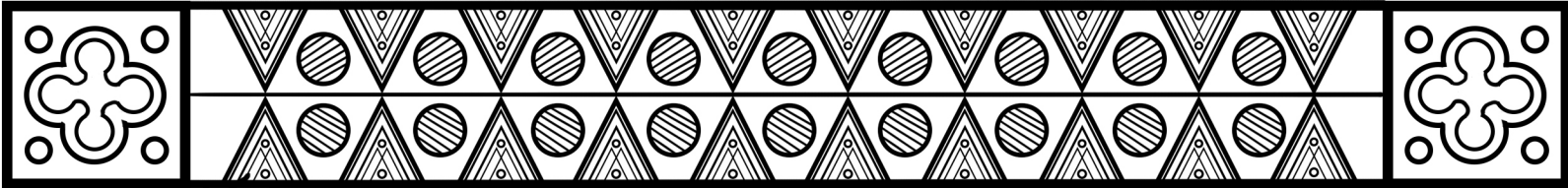
Rainbows are a symbol of God's promises to us. He used the rainbow to encourage Noah after the Flood, and we can be encouraged by the rainbow too. The different colors can remind us of how all of life's different circumstances work together for the good. See how all the colors are needed to make the rainbow, we need good times, challenging times, times of peace, times of frustration, and so on to grow and become who God wants us to be. When you look at this rainbow, think about how God promises to always work all things together for the good.















# WORD SEARCH

**Instructions:** Below are the names of some acts of nature that did not become elevated into symbols in our faith. They are still awe-inspiring. Find them in the word search—and think of God’s power if you should ever see one!

P	M	S	C	T	O	R	N	A	D	O	A	B	Y	E	L
E	L	Z	K	F	B	L	L	H	T	E	M	P	E	S	T
Q	Q	B	L	I	Z	Z	A	R	D	G	J	P	D	J	X
S	O	N	L	Q	Q	G	N	C	M	Y	Z	C	Z	T	Q
V	V	T	L	I	A	W	S	C	M	S	Q	X	B	S	A
H	M	H	P	W	G	A	I	R	Y	K	E	U	O	U	M
U	A	U	J	P	X	H	O	L	M	C	S	I	D	N	V
R	S	N	H	P	V	T	T	R	D	C	L	O	M	A	O
R	O	D	D	U	S	H	O	N	J	F	O	O	C	M	J
I	V	E	N	D	S	T	C	O	I	L	I	I	N	I	M
C	O	R	N	R	S	Z	H	W	F	N	M	R	I	E	O
A	M	I	O	D	X	B	D	W	R	D	G	G	E	P	N
N	W	C	N	W	H	I	R	L	P	O	O	L	I	V	S
E	R	A	E	A	R	T	H	Q	U	A	K	E	C	W	O
Q	S	P	D	E	R	E	C	H	O	U	T	M	E	Q	O
Z	Z	Q	U	A	A	C	G	P	R	A	I	N	M	B	N

**Words to Find:**

LIGHTNING  
THUNDER  
FLOOD  
HURRICANE  
MONSOON

SANDSTORM  
RAIN  
TSUNAMI  
EARTHQUAKE  
DERECHO

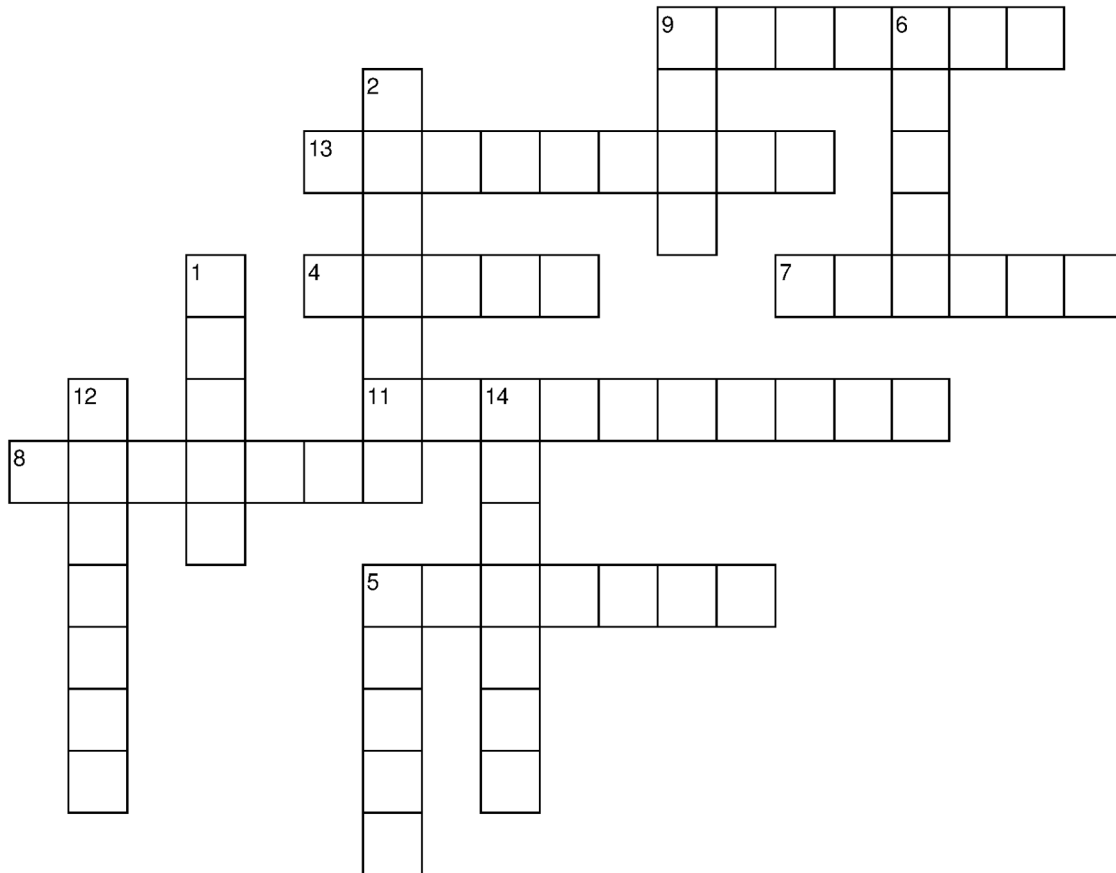
TEMPEST  
WINDSTORM  
CYCLONE  
ICE

BLIZZARD  
WHIRLPOOL  
TORNADO  
WILDFIRE



# CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**Instructions:** Use your At-A-Glance Sheet, Most Famous Scriptures on Acts of Nature, to complete the answers to the crossword puzzle below.



**Across**

- 4. Moses raised this toward the sky to start the plague of hail
- 5. God sent this along with hail and lightning in one of the 10 plagues
- 7. The hail was the worst storm since the guilty country had become this
- 8. This tore in the temple at the end of the crucifixion
- 9. The mountains and these were covered in the Great Flood
- 11. The centurion and guards realized Jesus was the Son of God when they saw this
- 13. The group that saw Jesus calm the storm

**Down**

- 1. Number of days the floodwater came on the earth in the story of the Great Flood.
- 2. Number of cubits of water that covered the mountains in the Great Flood
- 5. The dead came out of these after the resurrection
- 6. Country where the 10 plagues took place
- 9. Bodies of these types of people came back to life after the crucifixion
- 12. This level of storm came up on the lake, which Jesus calmed
- 14. Jesus did this to the wind and waves to create a calming of the storm





## AT A GLANCE: MOST FAMOUS SCRIPTURES ON ACTS OF NATURE

Below are the most famous scriptures about acts of nature in our Bible. Which is scariest? Which is friendly? Mark the friendly ones with an X.

**GENESIS 7:17-20**

### (The Great Flood of Noah)

<sup>17</sup> For forty days the flood kept coming on the earth, and as the waters increased they lifted the ark high above the earth. <sup>18</sup> The waters rose and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the water. <sup>19</sup> They rose greatly on the earth, and all the high mountains under the entire heavens were covered. <sup>20</sup> The waters rose and covered the mountains to a depth of more than fifteen cubits

**EXODUS 9:23-24**

### (One of the 10 plagues before the Exodus)

<sup>23</sup> When Moses stretched out his staff toward the sky, the LORD sent thunder and hail, and lightning flashed down to the ground. So the LORD rained hail on the land of Egypt; <sup>24</sup> hail fell and lightning flashed back and forth. It was the worst storm in all the land of Egypt since it had become a nation.

**MATTHEW 27:50-54**

### (Earthquake at the crucifixion)

<sup>50</sup> And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. <sup>51</sup> At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split <sup>52</sup> and the tombs broke open. The bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. <sup>53</sup> They came out of the tombs after Jesus' resurrection and went into the holy city and appeared to many people.

<sup>54</sup> When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!"

**MATTHEW 8:23-27**

### (Jesus calms the storm)

<sup>23</sup> Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him. Suddenly a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. <sup>25</sup> The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!"

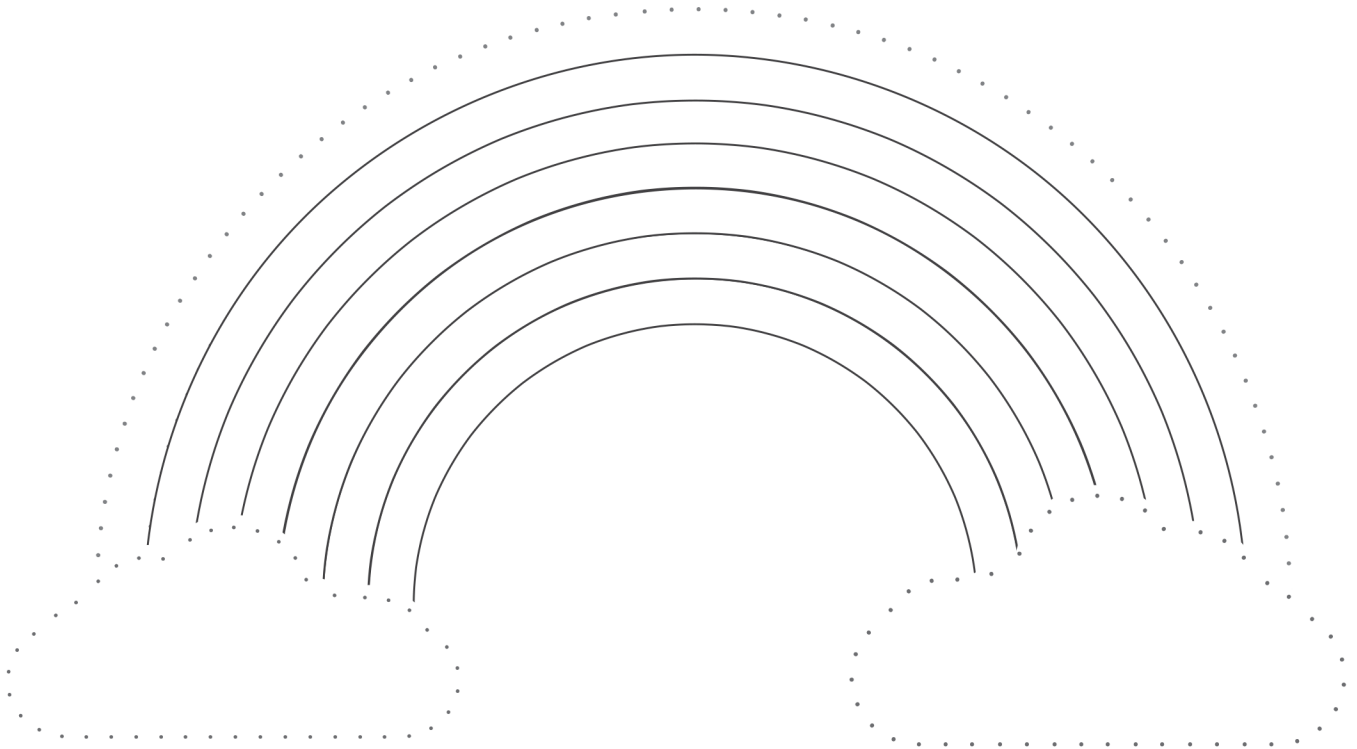
<sup>26</sup> He replied, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm.

<sup>27</sup> The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"



# TAKE-HOME FUN PAGE

Connect the Dots and Color



Write out the following important scripture for this symbol:

**Genesis 9:16**

Handwriting practice lines consisting of seven horizontal dashed lines.



**Lookup:** Exodus 9:24 and write it down.

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**Lookup:** Matthew 8:26 and write it down.

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**Question:** One of these acts of nature is completely terrifying. The other is an encouragement to trust Jesus in the “storms” of our life (our tough times). Write below why we can trust Jesus in all times, including those that are frustrating or terrifying? (Think of the disciples.)

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**Create a prayer below. Speak to God and write it. Ask God to help you look for the rainbows, which are at the end of tough times, using your own words:**

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**Instructions:** Use your At-A-Glance Sheet to fill in the scripture verses below that have to do with great acts of nature in the Bible.

## ACTS OF NATURE IN THE BIBLE

**Genesis 7:17-20: (The Great Flood of Noah)** <sup>17</sup> For \_\_\_\_\_ days the flood kept coming on the earth, and as the waters increased they lifted the ark high above the earth. <sup>18</sup> The waters rose and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the water. <sup>19</sup> They rose greatly on the earth, and all the high mountains under the entire \_\_\_\_\_ were covered. <sup>20</sup> The waters rose and covered the mountains to a depth of more than fifteen cubits

**Exodus 9:23-24: (One of the 10 plagues before the Exodus)** <sup>23</sup> When Moses stretched out his \_\_\_\_\_ toward the sky, the LORD sent \_\_\_\_\_ and hail, and lightning flashed down to the ground. So the LORD rained hail on the land of \_\_\_\_\_; <sup>24</sup> hail fell and lightning flashed back and forth. It was the worst storm in all the land of Egypt since it had become a nation.

**Matthew 27:50-54: (Earthquake at the crucifixion)** <sup>50</sup> And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his \_\_\_\_\_. <sup>51</sup> At that moment the \_\_\_\_\_ of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split <sup>52</sup> and the tombs broke open. The \_\_\_\_\_ of many holy people who had died were raised to life. <sup>54</sup> When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!"

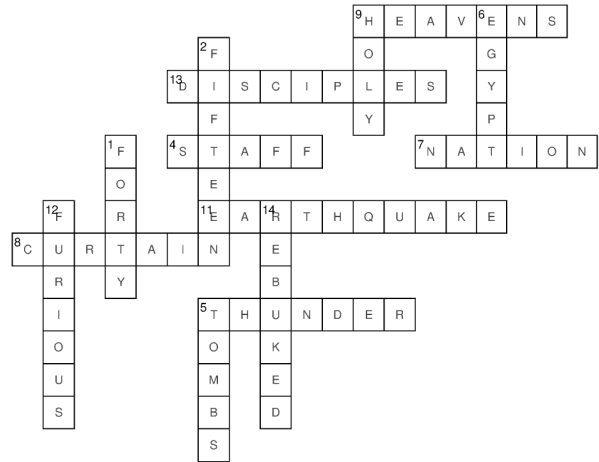
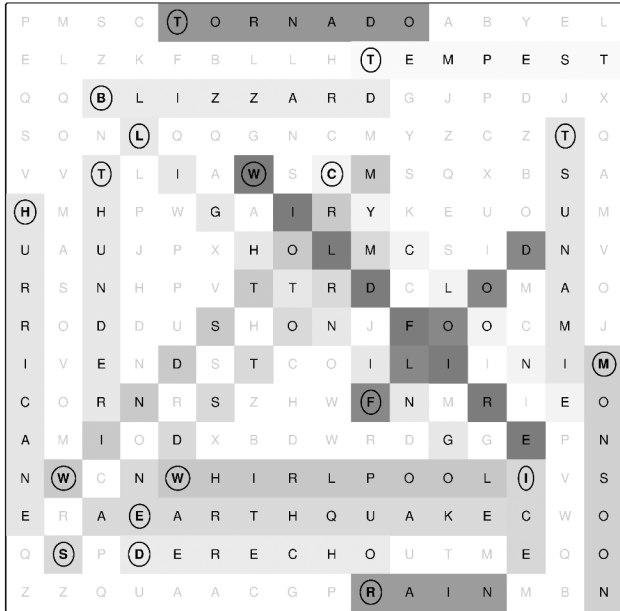
**Matthew 8:23-27: (Jesus calms the storm)** <sup>23</sup> Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him. <sup>24</sup> Suddenly a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. <sup>25</sup> The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!"

<sup>26</sup> He replied, "You of little faith, why are you so \_\_\_\_\_?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm.

<sup>27</sup> The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the \_\_\_\_\_ obey him!"



# ANSWER KEY



### Teacher's QUIZ ANSWERS in order:

- 1) Forty
- 2) Heavens
- 3) Staff
- 4) Thunder
- 5) Egypt
- 6) Spirit
- 7) Curtain
- 8) Bodies
- 9.) Afraid
- 10.) Waves



UNDERSTANDING  
CHRISTIAN SYMBOLS

*Parables*

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION



NAME:

DATE: