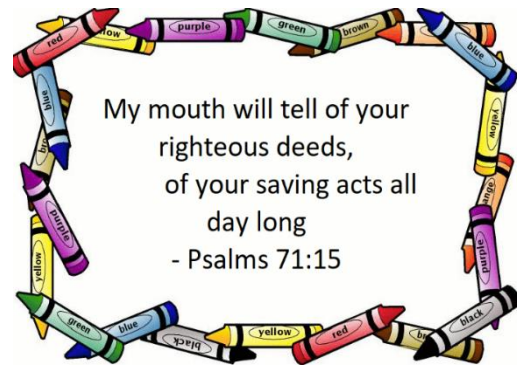
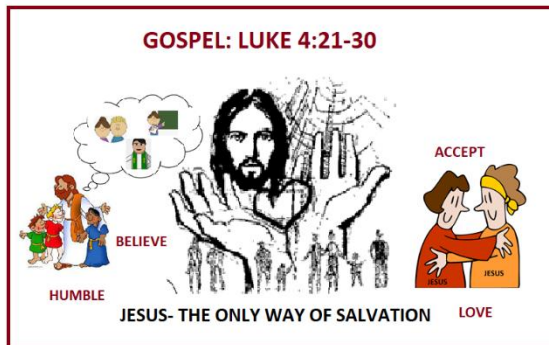


“No prophet is ever accepted in his own country.” Children’s Liturgy Activity January 30th, 2022



Gospel: Luke 4:21-30

In the Gospel today, we see the continuation from last week when Jesus was reading the scriptures from the scroll of Isaiah, that prophesied about him, in the synagogue. Jesus reflected to the people that “This text is being fulfilled today as you listen. ‘The people were astonished by the gracious words that came from Jesus and knew about his works but they were shattered on thinking of his earthly status. They knew him as the son of Joseph, the carpenter. They were not able to accept how the son of a carpenter could talk like this. Understanding their attitudes, Jesus is leading them to examine their intentions and he exposed their inner thoughts: how they are feeling to challenge him to perform like he did in other places and that how their earthly knowledge and judgements are blocking them to accept divine revelations. Judging Jesus based on the earthly status hardened their hearts with unbelief. Jesus says, ‘no prophet is ever accepted in his own country.’ Jesus quotes examples from Old Testament: From 1 Kings 17, In the days of Elijah, the prophet, there was no rain and a great famine raged over the land. but God send prophet Elijah only to a widow in Zarephath to reach his providence. In 2 kings 5, there was many lepers in Israel, but prophet Elisha was send only to Syrian leper named Naaman to provide the healing from God. Gods’ blessings is reaching to all people without any discrimination. But it gets blocked due to hardened hearts, filled with pride and unbelief, blocking them from receiving gods providence, healing and deliverance.

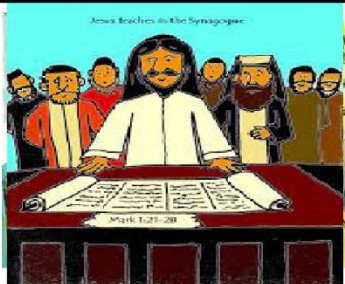
When Jesus exposed the truth in their hearts, the people were angry, and their stubbornness blocked them not to be humble to accept the truth that only way of salvation is in Jesus. They tried to throw Jesus down a cliff. But Jesus walked away. Jesus revealed truth to the people, but they were not ready to humble themselves to take in his words and change the way of living. Jesus have revealed himself as our saviour who is the only one who can save us from everything. In our lives, Jesus helps us by opening to us the real way truth of life. When he reveals to us what to do, are we ready to obey him in trust? Or do we remain stubborn, not to change or humble and get angry? Jesus offers healing and help to all of us – but we ourselves must be opened to allowing him to act in our lives.

Jesus exposed the truth to the people. But they were not ready to accept him as he was son of Joseph the carpenter. They focused on Jesus's earthly status and failed to accept him. They were astonished at his words but shattered due to his physical worldly possessions. Do we sometimes failed to accept the goodness in others due to their earthly status? Do I judge them? Or when they reveal to us a wisdom, we are not accepting it due to our own pride and attitude of knowing everything. We get angry of others able to do it, but we couldn’t. How do I feel when someone I know well is successful? Am I a judging person? This makes us miss Jesus's presence in our fellow beings. We fail to recognise Jesus in them by focusing and judging them based on what they have or do or wear with a worldly eye. Let not our desire to worldliness block us from recognising Jesus' presence among us, in the people around us; or reject him by rejecting our fellow beings based on their earthliness. Let not our anger take us away from the presence or from the words of Jesus .

Match the pictures to the Right Story.



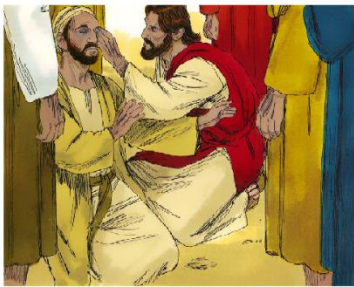
Jesus reveals himself as sent by God to the people in the Synagogue



Ananias was sent by God to heal Saul.



Prophet Elijah sent to a widow at Zarephath

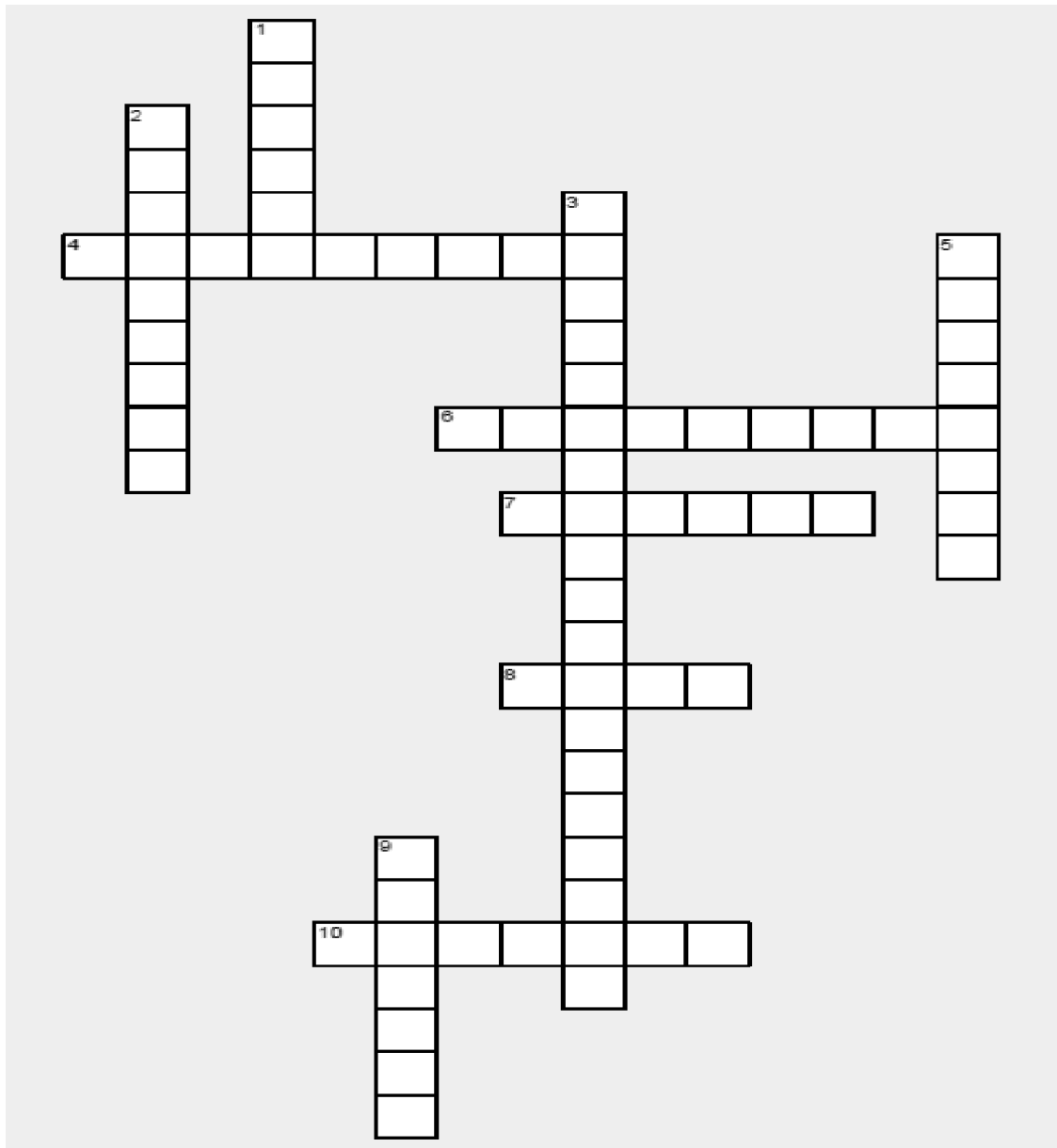


Prophet Elisha is sent to Namaan



Jesus came to heal Bartimaeus, the blind man

Solve the Crossword Puzzle.



across:

- 4: Which town did Elijah visit during the great famine?
 6: Finish the quote, '____, heal yourself'
 7: Who was the only person cured in Israel during Elisha's time?
 8: Where did the mob of people take Jesus to?
 10: Finish the quote, 'No _____ is ever accepted in his own country.'

down:

- 1: What natural disaster occurred during Elijah's time?
 2: Where was Jesus speaking?
 3: How long did Heaven remain shut for during Elijah's time?
 5: What kind of town was it?
 9: How did the people feel when they heard Jesus' speech?

Discover and Accept the Goodness in Others.

In the table below can you write down one Goodness that you note in five people you meet next week and thank God for them.

Name	Goodness

Jesus helps us by opening to us the true way of Love.

Can you complete the following word of God and discover the nature of God's love? (Clue: 1 Corinthians 13:4-8)

Love is patie-----, love is ----- . It does not -----, it does not b----a-----, it is not ----- . It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking it is not easily angered., it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in ----- but ----- with the truth. It always pr-----, always tr-----, always ho----- , always perseveres. Love never -----.

Let us pray, 

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for your unconditional love for us. We thank you for your selfless sacrifice, opening us the way of salvation. We proclaim you as our Lord and Savior. Give us the grace to always seek , trust and obey you each moment of our life. Help us to recognize your presence and guidance that you send us through our fellow beings. Give us your power to humble ourselves to change according to the revelations of your word and to accept the goodness in others to live the way of love. In Jesus' name we pray ,amen.