

## 7 What's inside God's big book?

# All about Jesus!



### Play time



#### Bodylines!

**You will need:** large roll of paper, eg old wallpaper, washable marker pens.

Take it in turns to lie down on a length of paper while another person draws round the body outline. Draw round adults and children. Help the children realise that Jesus looked like us and experienced things on earth that we do too. Compare the sizes. Comment that when Jesus was a child he would have been the same size as the children and then he grew up, just like we do.

#### Dough pictures

**You will need:** large quantities of play dough in blue, orange, green; people-shaped cutters; rolling pins; one large tray for each group.

Jesus liked going into the hills, often with lots of people. Make a play dough picture or model to show him there. Make a background of green hills and blue sea. Add 'people' cut or moulded by hand. Add one figure to be Jesus and have fun making more and more people to join him.

#### Bible corner

In a quiet corner display some books, which have pictures of Jesus in them, and have an adult available to read the stories to the children. Set out art materials so children can draw scenes from the stories.

#### Sand and water

**You will need:** water tray or large bowl of water; toy boats, sand tray, damp sand, buckets, moulds, spades and scoops, small fishing nets, plastic fish.

Play freely with sand and water, mentioning the Bible links: Jesus went in a boat (blow or splash boats across the water), he walked by the shore and up hills (dig and build with sand; make footprints in the sand), he went fishing with his friends (add plastic fish to the water and catch them in hands or nets).

### Game time



#### Off we go

**You will need:** floor cushion 'hills', blue fabric 'water', chairs or cushions forming a boat, yellow fabric or paper 'beach', playhouse or dolls house.

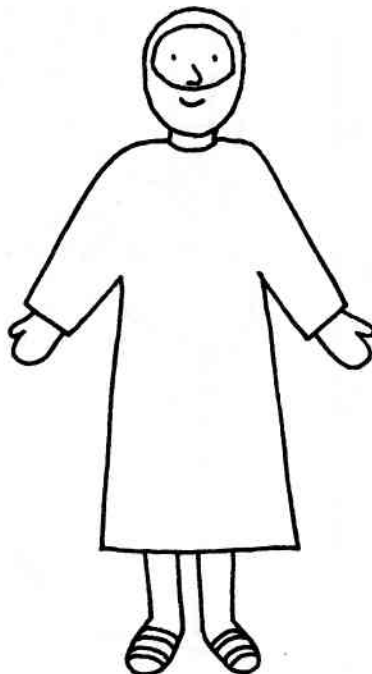
Explain that today you are going to think about Jesus and the places he went, and play 'Follow my leader' together. They are going to do lots of walking, so begin by sitting down to pull on imaginary walking boots. Stand up and show the children how they can all march with you; knees up high, arms swinging, and off you go. Take them up the mountains that Jesus walked; along the sandy beach where Jesus met his friends; in the boat for a storm or to go fishing; through the villages to heal the sick and on the water where Jesus walked.

### Making time



#### Mosaic creation!

**You will need:** enlarged copy of the



mosaic outline (page 36) of Jesus for each child, metallic shiny paper shapes or tissue paper shapes of a suitable size for the picture, glue, glitter and newspaper.

Cover the tables in newspaper so that you will be able to clear up any spilt glue easily at the end of the activity. Give each child a copy of the picture of Jesus. Explain to them that in churches we often see beautifully coloured pictures of Jesus in the glass windows and they can decorate one for themselves to take home too. Let them glue on shapes and then add some glitter for extra sparkle.

### Story time



#### All about Jesus!

**You will need:** illustrated Bible with a bookmark at any picture of Jesus.

Say, 'This book is the Bible. It's a special book because it tells us a lot about God. I wonder what we can find in it today?' Teach everyone to say, 'What's in the Bible today?' Open it up and find the picture of Jesus. Say, 'The Bible tells us all about Jesus!'

Come and be Jesus' friends with me today! Let your fingers walk like this and we can see what Jesus is doing today! (Show the children how to 'walk' their fingers: do this through the story.)

Let's walk by the lake and see who Jesus is with. Look! There are the fisherman, mending their nets. Jesus is calling Andrew, Simon, James and John. They are coming to him and following on.

Let's walk in the towns. Many people live here. Listen! They hear Jesus coming, and are running to him now. He makes the sick feel better; he makes blind people see. No wonder the crowds grow bigger and many are crying out, 'Jesus, please help me!'

Let's walk up the mountains. Crowds of people are following Jesus. They listen to his stories of how God cares for each of us. God feeds the birds and puts petals on the lilies standing in the field. Jesus tells the people, 'You are much more precious than all of these.'

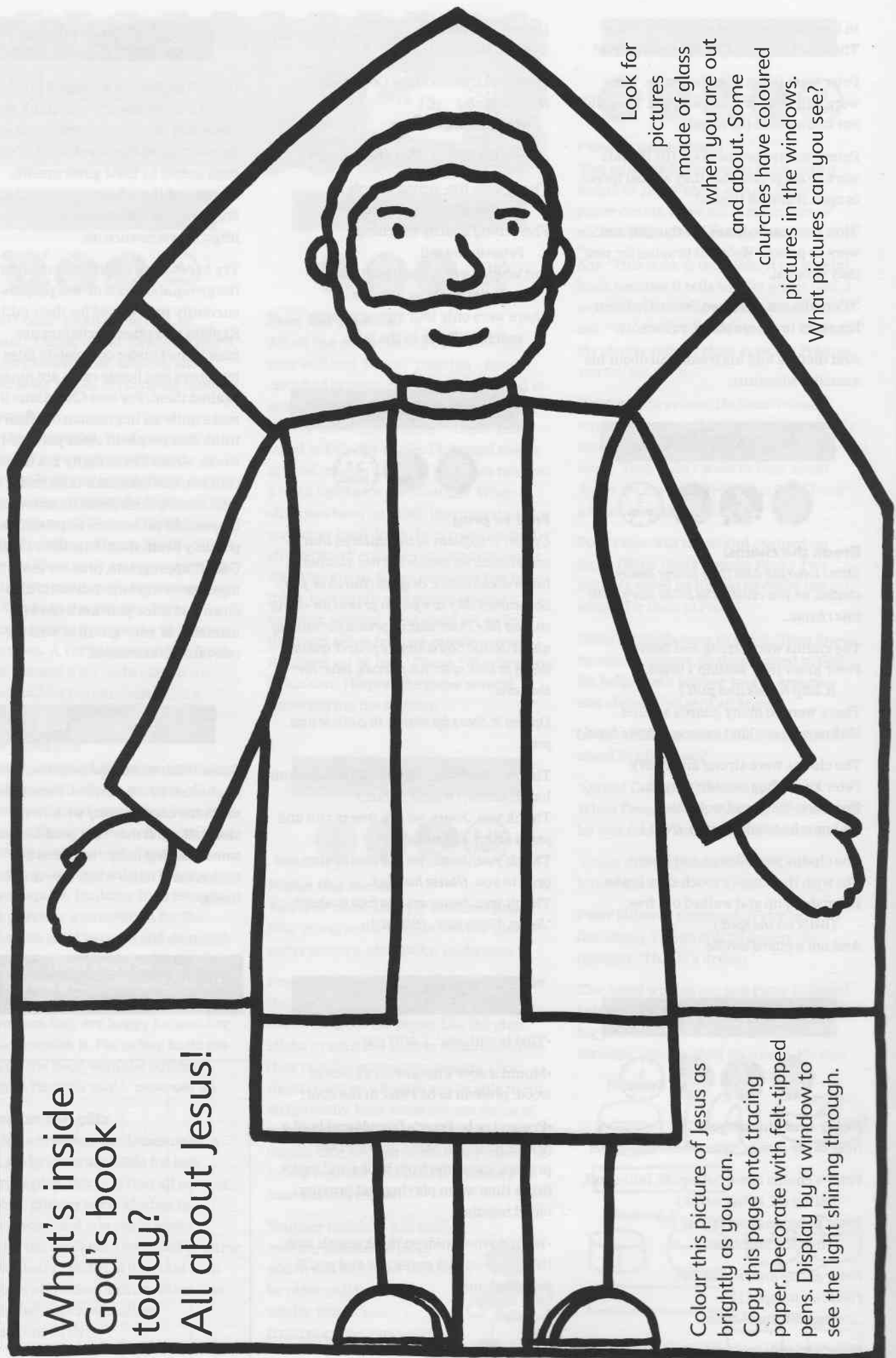
Let's get in a boat and go out on the lake. A storm's blowing and is rocking the boat about. Jesus' friends cry out in fear, 'We're going to drown, please help! Watch



Matthew,  
Mark, Luke  
and John

My name

What's inside  
God's book  
today?  
All about Jesus!



Look for  
pictures  
made of glass  
when you are out  
and about. Some  
churches have coloured  
pictures in the windows.  
What pictures can you see?

Colour this picture of Jesus as  
brightly as you can.  
Copy this page onto tracing  
paper. Decorate with felt-tipped  
pens. Display by a window to  
see the light shining through.