Giving is...

FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

Season of Thanksgiving 2021

Each session in this guide includes a Bible verse and questions for discussion, along with song suggestions and an activity. Please feel free to customize the materials to your situation.

For more family resources, visit **www.faitharc.org**

Giving is LOVE

FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

Discuss:

1. The Bible verse above summarizes the gospel, the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ. It also makes clear the reason for Christ's sacrifice on the cross. What was behind the sending and sacrifice of Christ? Take a moment to talk about the result of God's love shown through Jesus' sacrifice – everlasting life. What does this mean?

2. Think about the love of God. How would you describe it?

3. God's love is to inspire our own love toward Him and others, and, in turn, our giving. How can we be sure that our giving is motivated out of love? What are some signs of this?

4. Consider the following truth: "The greatest gift that can ever be shared is the love of Jesus. If this is the only gift you can give to someone else, then you've given enough." What are some ways that we can share the love of Jesus with others?

5. Through Scripture, we know that love is the basis for giving and giving is of great importance to Jesus. Read and discuss Matthew 22:37-38, Matthew 22:39 and John 13:34.

Sing together!

Think about His Love

(Hymnal 397)

Magnificent, Marvelous, Matchless Love

Keith and Kristyn Getty
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qgEn6ftrT-4

Put it into action!

Talk about something you can do for the people you love (and then do it!). It could be as simple as giving someone a hug, doing some chores around the house, reading to each other, visiting a grandparent...

Giving is FAITH

FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosoms. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.

Luke 6:38

Discuss:

1. What is Jesus teaching us in this Bible verse? He is using the imagery of grain being sold to describe God's generosity towards us when we give. The seller would take a measuring container and pour the grain into it. After getting it about 3/4 full, he would shake it to level out the grain so more could be put in, with the goal of getting as much grain in the container as possible. Give some thought to this for a moment. What would it mean to put this teaching into practice in your life?

2. In your own words, what do you think it means to *give by faith*? Who is someone in the Bible who gave by faith? Discuss the story of Abel and Cain. How did God respond to Abel's faithful giving?

3. Just as we love God because He first loved us, we should also be faithful to God because He's faithful to us. What are some ways that He's shown His faithfulness to you? How has He cared for you?

4. Consider the first part of Luke 12:48 – *For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required.* What is Jesus emphasizing here? What is the greatest thing we have been given? What responsibilities come with this great privilege?

Sing together!

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

(Hymnal 40)

By Faith

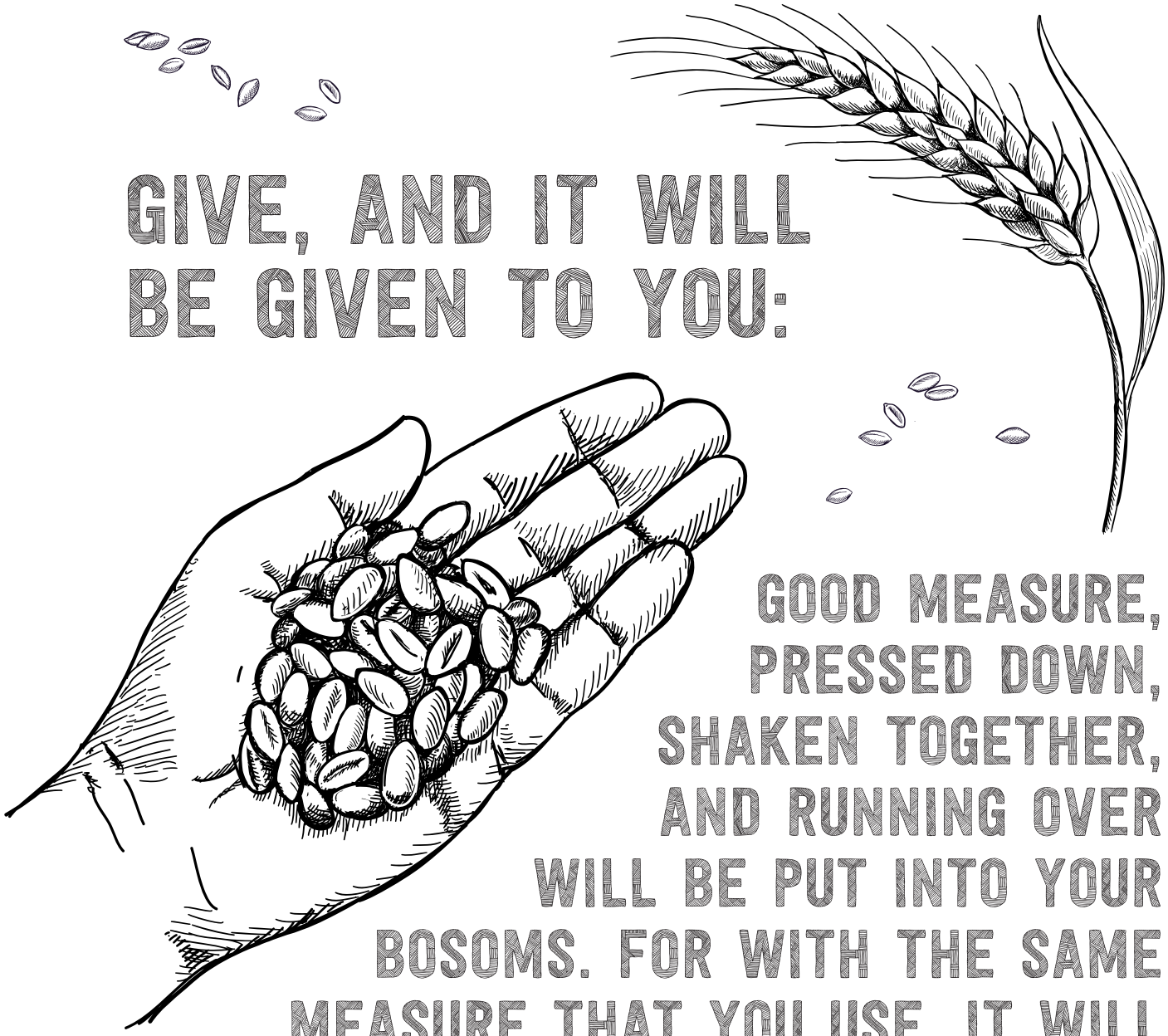
Keith and Kristyn Getty
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fXB8ihepUpE
(with lyrics)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2LNJgm55mj0
(children's version)

Put it into action!

Write a prayer for someone asking God to provide something that they need: health, comfort, joy, food, etc.. If you can, give the person your written out prayer to let them know that you are thinking of them and that you have faith God will provide.

GIVE, AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU:



GOOD MEASURE, PRESSED DOWN, SHAKEN TOGETHER, AND RUNNING OVER WILL BE PUT INTO YOUR BOSOMS. FOR WITH THE SAME MEASURE THAT YOU USE, IT WILL BE MEASURED BACK TO YOU.

Giving is JOY

FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.

Luke 10:20

Discuss:

1. This Bible verse contains the words of Jesus. Who is Jesus talking to here? What did the disciples do wrong? What is Jesus trying to teach them?

2. What should our joy be rooted in? What's the ultimate source of our joy? What else brings you joy?

3. What response should this never-ending joy produce? Read Acts 2:42-47 and discuss, using the example of the first believers to help guide your answer.

4. 2 Corinthians 9:8 – *And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.* In this short verse, Paul makes clear three things that God is able to do. What are they? How should we respond to these wonderful truths?

Sing together!

Let your hearts be ever joyful

(Hymnal 136)

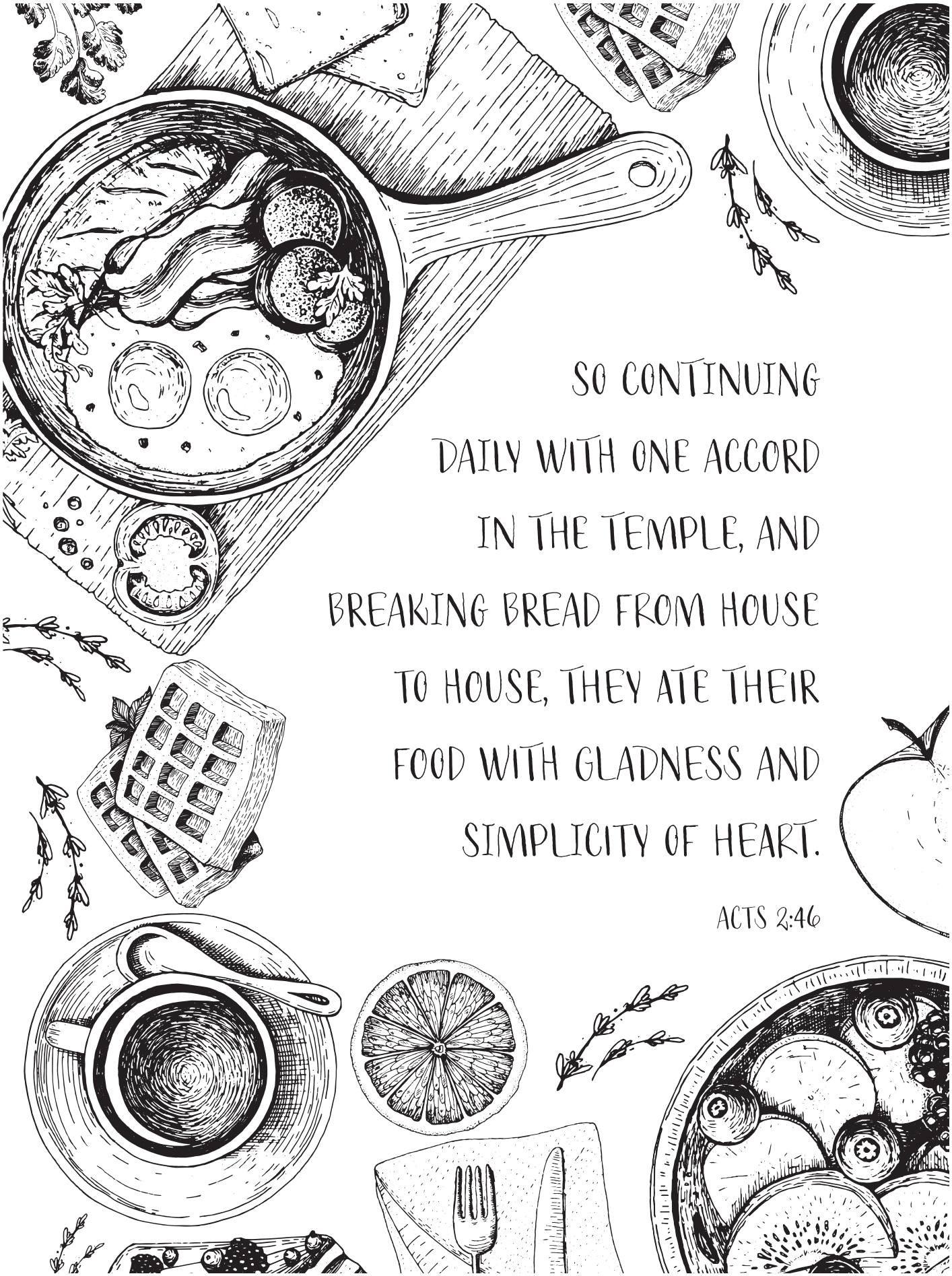
Christ is All

Matt Papa & Matt Boswell
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=13dBODwf3V4

Put it into action!

Make a card or a batch of cookies and surprise a friend or neighbor with them! With your family, talk about the feelings you experienced when you gave them your gift.

For older kids: find a Psalm with the word "joy" in it and include it on your card, or with the gift.



SO CONTINUING DAILY WITH ONE ACCORD IN THE TEMPLE, AND BREAKING BREAD FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE, THEY ATE THEIR FOOD WITH GLADNESS AND SIMPLICITY OF HEART.

ACTS 2:46

Giving is MISSION

FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

Matthew 28:19-20

Discuss:

1. These verses from the Gospel of Matthew are known as the Great Commission. To whom does this Great Commission apply? How can YOU help fulfill this mission given by Christ?

2. The mission statement of our church is tied directly to the Great Commission (read it on the next page). What are some practical ways that YOU can help contribute to this mission? How can you help those within the congregation experience the love of God?

3. How is giving related to the mission? Name a couple examples from the Bible of people who gave in order to advance the mission of the Church.

4. When it comes to sharing the good news of Jesus with others, where can we start? What is it about Jesus that you would be eager to share with someone else?

Sing together!

Take the name of Jesus with you

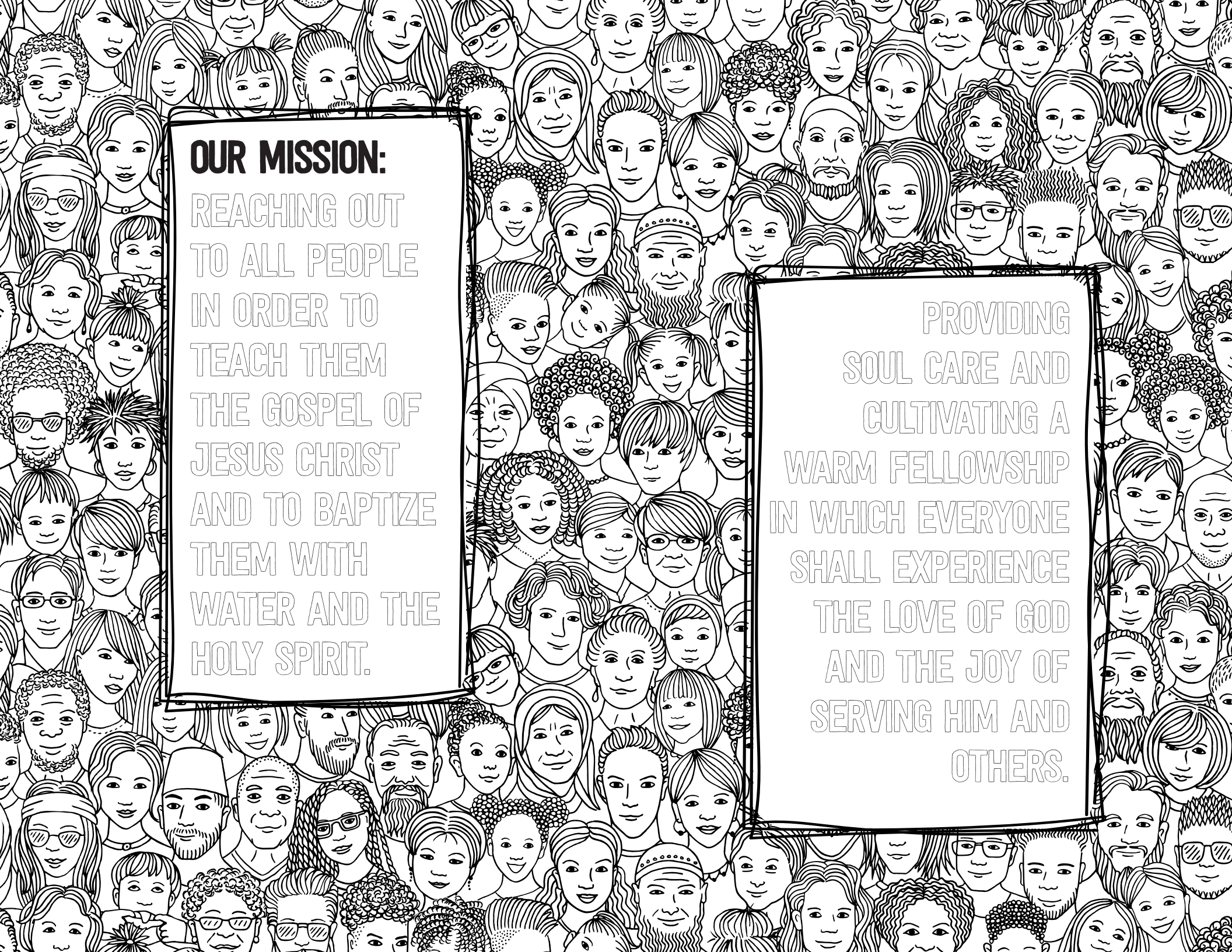
(Hymnal 213)

Facing a task unfinished

Keith & Kristyn Getty
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zOpt_bulJxY

Put it into action!

Color in the following page with our Mission statement on it.



OUR MISSION:

REACHING OUT TO ALL PEOPLE IN ORDER TO TEACH THEM THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST AND TO BAPTIZE THEM WITH WATER AND THE HOLY SPIRIT.

PROVIDING SOUL CARE AND CULTIVATING A WARM FELLOWSHIP IN WHICH EVERYONE SHALL EXPERIENCE THE LOVE OF GOD AND THE JOY OF SERVING HIM AND OTHERS.

Giving is SACRIFICE

FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

Romans 12:1

Discuss:

1. What comes to mind when you hear the word "sacrifice?" What does the word "sacrifice" mean in a spiritual sense?

2. What's the greatest sacrifice of all? Why was Jesus' sacrifice so significant?

3. Our response to Jesus' sacrifice should be sacrifices of our own. Although our sacrifices can never compare to Christ's, there are certainly sacrifices that we can make. What are some examples?

4. Romans 12:1 provides another example of sacrifice: What is it? What does this mean, do you think?

Sing together!

I offer my life

(Celebration Hymnal 663)

Holy Spirit

(Hymnal 466 - especially verse 3)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kDYjn-YdnD4

Put it into action!

Discuss the story of the Good Samaritan. What is something that you could give up and share with someone else? Look for a community organization or school program where you could donate your money, items, or time.

Giving is SECRET

FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise, you have no reward from your Father in heaven. Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.

But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.

Matthew 6:1-4

Discuss:

1. In the above verses, Jesus makes it clear that the motivation behind our giving and serving is of utmost importance. What specifically does He warn against? What does Jesus tell us to do instead?

2. Often we're told to say thank you after we receive something. How can you show gratitude when you don't know where a gift came from?

3. What does it feel like to receive a surprise or a gift that is secret? What does it feel like to give someone a gift in secret?

4. Why should humility be an aspect of our giving?

Sing together!

For the beauty of the earth

(Hymnal 136)

Take time to be holy

(Hymnal 154)

Put it into action!

Secretly do something for a neighbor (leave them some groceries or cookies, mow their lawn, rake leaves, etc.).

Giving is WORSHIP

FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

Discuss:

1. How does Paul encourage those in the congregation in Corinth to give? Why should we follow Paul's advice and *give cheerfully*, or with joy?

2. How would you define worship? If God doesn't need our worship, why should we worship Him?

3. Giving as a form of worship means that we give something back to God as a way to express our feelings for Him. What are some things that we can "give back to God?" How can you focus your attention on God in this time of Thanksgiving?

4. Matthew 25:40 shows us that when we give to others, we give to Christ. Think about someone in your life who is in need. What could you give them that would help fulfill their need?

Sing together!

Worthy of worship

(Hymnal 29)

I offer my life

(Hymnal 663)

Put it into action!

Find a branch outside to put in a pot with some dirt, rocks, or moss. Cut leaves out of paper that you can tie to the "tree branches". As a family, write what you are thankful for on each leaf. Discuss how you can praise and worship God for what He has given to you; plan a family worship night, save money for a special offering, say a prayer of gratitude, or sing a song of praise every time you add a leaf to your tree.