

# Stories of Faith

## Set 1

### Contents

	PAGE
The Baby Birds	2
The Spider's Web	4
Helen Keller	5
Jonathan & the missing pencils	8
The Carpenter's tools	10
The Wisdom of Solomon	11
The Angel of Light	13
Heaven	15
The Little Red Hen	17
The Fisherman's Wife	19



# The Baby Birds

(A true story)

In the roof of Grandma's house was a nest. A mother bird had built the nest, high up, away from danger. In the nest were four blue eggs. Mother bird sat on the eggs. She waited and waited. At last, four chirping baby birds hatched out of the eggs. Now mother bird often stayed away from the nest to collect food for her babies. She would bring worms back to the nest and pop them into the little open beaks.

One day, Tim came to visit Grandma. Tim was sometimes naughty. Today he felt like being very naughty. Tim saw the nest in the roof. Tim also saw a long, long stick resting against the shed wall.

"I know what I'll do," he thought. "I'll get that long, long stick and give the nest a poke."

Tim held the end of the stick very carefully.

"Yes, I can reach it," he said.

He gave the nest a little poke... then a bigger one. Down, down, down came the nest.

"Cheep, cheep, cheep," went the little birds.

Tim couldn't bear to look at the nest, now on the ground. He ran away crying. He knew he had been very naughty.

"What's the matter, Tim?" asked Grandma. "Why are you crying?"

"It's the baby birds," cried Tim. "They've fallen from the roof."

"How did they fall?" asked Grandma.

Tim just kept crying. Grandma went to have a look at the birds and saw the stick nearby.

"Did you knock the birds down with that stick, Tim?" asked Grandma.

Tim could not tell a lie.

"I did," he said, "and now all the baby birds will be dead."

"Come and have a look, Tim," said Grandma.

Tim counted the birds ....1..2..3..4., and each bird was cheeping loudly.

"God has protected them all," said Grandma. "Do you know that God cares for birds and knows about it when they fall from their nest? Just think about how much He loves us. He knows exactly how many hairs are on your head, Tim," said Grandma.

"I'm so glad that the babies are still alive," said Tim. "But now their nest is ruined."

Grandma saw an old flower-pot in the garden shed.

"Why don't we make a little nest from this, Tim? We'll put it on the roof, exactly where the old nest was."

Tim and Grandma set to work, making a cosy nest from straw and cotton wool. They carefully placed the birds in the new nest and put it gently in position on the roof.

"I don't think the mother will come back to feed the babies now that she knows humans have touched the nest," said Tim sadly.

"Let's wait and see," said Grandma.

They waited.

Before long, the mother bird did come back. In her beak she was carrying a little bunch of worms. Into each little open beak she popped a piece of worm. Tim was very happy.

"God really does look after all his creatures," he thought. "I know He cares for me too."

Jesus said, "Do not be afraid, God cares for you more than the birds." Luke 12:6-7



## The Baby Birds Activities

### PART A

1. Where was the nest?
2. Draw the nest showing what was inside it.
3. What did Tim do that was so naughty?
4. Draw the new nest that Grandma made.
5. Why did Tim think that the mother bird would not come back?
6. What did Tim learn about God?
7. Look up this Bible verse: **Matthew 6:26**. Write it and draw a picture for it.

### PART B

Read:

God shows His love to us in the way He cares for us. He loves us more than the birds. He loves us because we are His children.

**Copy and fill in the missing words:**

**How can I show God's love to others?**

I can \_\_\_\_\_ others that Jesus loves them.

I can care for others as Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ for me.

I can speak \_\_\_\_\_ words.

I can do things to make others \_\_\_\_\_.

**Missing words:**    *kind    happy    cares    tell*

## The Spider's Web

This story shows the foolishness of disobeying those who love and care for us.

Belinda Beetle belonged to a very large family. Like all beetles, she had four wings: two underwings for flying, and two upper ones for covering and protecting the special flying wings. Right down her back was a straight line where the two wings met.

Belinda was a shiny Christmas beetle with six long legs and two feelers. She was very proud of her beautiful colours...so beautiful that she could almost have been used as a decoration on a Christmas tree.

Belinda would spend most of her day climbing gum trees and munching on the juicy green leaves. Sometimes she would see beautiful spiders' webs shining in the sunshine.

"How I would love to touch a beautiful spider's web," she thought, but knew she mustn't, as her father and mother had told her NEVER, NEVER TO GO NEAR SPIDERS' WEBS.

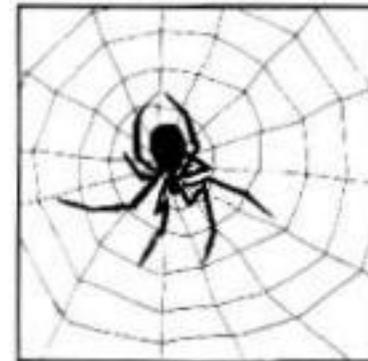
"A spider's web is very sticky," they would say. "If you touch it you will get caught in it and not be able to get out again."

Belinda was a very curious little beetle. She was so curious that one day, she just couldn't resist going near a spider's web.

"If I'm very, very careful," she thought, "I'm sure I could touch the web without getting caught."

Belinda reached out one of her six long legs. She touched the web, then quickly tried to pull back again. She pulled and pulled, but she only became more entangled in the web. There she was, stuck in the beautiful shiny spider's web.

Now Belinda knew why her mother and father told her to NEVER, NEVER GO NEAR SPIDERS' WEBS....and now she knew that she should have obeyed.



## The Spider's Web Activities

### PART A

1. Read the first two paragraphs again, and then draw Belinda Beetle.
2. What did Belinda Beetle eat?
3. What did she want to do most of all?
4. What did her father tell her?
5. Write two endings for this story. First write a sad ending and then write a happy one.
6. What does **obey** mean?
7. Who should we obey?

### PART B

#### Read:

God knows more than anyone. He knows what is best for us. That is why it is wise to obey the things He tells us to do. Being wise is doing the right thing. Being wise is listening to people who know more than we do.

#### Copy and fill in the missing words:

##### How can I be wise?

I can \_\_\_\_\_ to Mum and Dad, and obey them.

I can listen to God and \_\_\_\_\_ Him.

**Missing words:**    *obey*    *listen*

## Helen Keller

When Helen was little more than one year old, she became very ill. When she recovered from the illness, her parents found that their little girl could no longer see or hear.

It was a frightening experience for a little one year old, to find herself suddenly in a world of darkness. She just clung to her mother's dress all day as her mother went about the housework. Her mother loved Helen very much and helped her understand the world around her.

By the time Helen was five she was able to help her mother fold and put away the clean clothes. She was even able to tell her own clothes from the rest.

Three months before Helen turned seven, a teacher came to live with them. Miss Sullivan would be Helen's own personal teacher. Miss Sullivan taught Helen to understand letters which she would spell into the palm of Helen's hand. Helen could tell one letter from another by feel alone. Soon she was able to put letters together to make words. Helen learned to make words into Miss Sullivan's hand too, and before long they were able to talk to each other using the silent language.

Miss Sullivan then taught Helen to read words, which were written in raised type, on special pieces of cardboard. Helen could read the words by feeling the letters. This was called Braille. Miss Sullivan would play hide and seek with Helen using the Braille word cards. It was Helen who actually thought up the game. One day she pinned the Braille word, 'girl', on her dress and hid in the wardrobe. She had left some other words on the shelf, as clues for Miss Sullivan. The words were: 'is', 'in', "wardrobe". This meant that Miss Sullivan had to go and look for Helen in the wardrobe. She and her teacher played this game for hours at a time.

Because Helen was only one year old when she became deaf, she had not been able to speak with her voice as we do. When Helen was ten, Miss Sullivan heard about a deaf girl in Norway who had been taught to speak using her voice. Helen wanted to try to do this too. It was very difficult because she had to learn how to say sounds by feeling the position of the teacher's tongue and lips as the sound was being made. Then Helen would have to copy what the teacher did. On her first day, Helen had managed to imitate six sounds!

Helen never gave up. She kept trying until she was able to speak using her voice. When she was older, Helen helped others who had problems like herself.

She wrote books and travelled the country giving speeches about helping the blind and deaf. She didn't need her teacher any more, but she always remembered Miss Sullivan, who had been so patient and kind to her. Helen thanked God for giving her Miss Sullivan.

*Helen Keller was born in the U.S.A. and lived from 1880-1986.*

## Helen Keller Activities

### PART A

1. When did Helen become ill?
2. What happened to Helen because of the illness?
3. How did Helen's mother let Helen help around the house?
4. How did Miss Sullivan help Helen?
5. How did Helen learn to speak?
6. Why would we say that Miss Sullivan was patient and kind?
7. If you knew someone who was blind or deaf, how would you show love and kindness to them?

### PART B

#### Read:

God is kind. God is patient. People can show God's kindness and patience in their lives. The Bible says, 'love is patient and kind'. Showing God's love to others is showing His patience and kindness. God wants us to show His love to everyone, especially those who cannot do things as well as we can.

#### Copy and fill in the missing words:

#### How can I show God's love to others?

I can be \_\_\_\_\_ to people who can't do things as well as I can.  
I can look out for ways to \_\_\_\_\_ people who have needs.

*Missing words: help kind*

## Jonathan and the missing pencils

Jonathan arrived at school and took the things he needed from his school bag. Today he was finishing off his project on reptiles. So far he had done four pages of beautiful drawings, and a piece of information about each reptile. Jonathan loved drawing. Everyone knew that he was good at it, and his teacher often gave him stars or special stamps for good work.

Recently Jonathan had received for his birthday, a beautiful set of pencils. It wasn't an ordinary set. There were 50 different colours and shades...even silver and gold. Jonathan was using his special pencils for the project.

Jonathan picked up his pencil case. Something was wrong. He quickly unzipped it. To his horror, nearly all of the pencils had gone. He counted them. Only 15 left! Jonathan cried silently, hoping that no one would see him. But someone did see him.

"What's wrong, Jonathan," asked his teacher, Miss Scott.

Jonathan explained what was wrong.

"I think we should pray and ask Jesus to show the person took the pencils, how wrong it was. Jesus knows how you feel too Jonathan. We must trust that He will turn this bad thing into something good," said Miss Scott kindly.

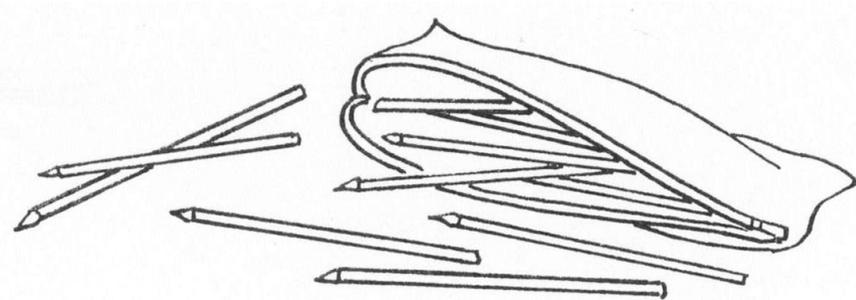
There was a new boy in the school. His name was Timothy. He used to get into lots of trouble at his old school. But all of a sudden, at this new school, he felt bad about doing the things he had done before. Something inside him said, "Take the pencils back." Finally he could stand it no longer. "I'll creep back after school when no one is there," he thought, "and put the pencils back in Jonathan's pencil case."

After school, he crept into the classroom clutching the pencils. To his dismay, Miss Scott was working at her table.

"Can I help you, Timothy?" she asked. She saw the pencils, and knew immediately why he had come. But instead of punishing Timothy, Miss Scott said 'thank you' for returning the pencils. She also told Timothy about a special friend of hers who wanted to be a friend of Timothy's too. This friend, Miss Scott said, wanted to help Timothy. The friend, of course, was Jesus. Timothy was already sorry for what he had done. He told Jesus that he was sorry, and asked Jesus to be his special friend.

The next day, Timothy also said sorry to Jonathan. In fact, they became good friends. Timothy no longer did the things that he did at his old school.

Jonathan was glad that Miss Scott was his teacher. She had helped him to trust God at a time when things went wrong. He had seen how God could turn something bad into something good. Jonathan not only had his pencils back, but he had a new friend as well. And best of all, Timothy had found a new friend, Jesus.



## Jonathan and the missing pencils Activities

### PART A

1. Describe Jonathan's special set of pencils.
2. Why do you think Timothy felt bad about stealing the pencils?

3. Do you think Miss Scott should have been angry when Timothy returned the pencils?
4. Do you think Miss Scott was a good teacher? Why?
5. What important thing did Timothy have to do in order to be forgiven?
6. How did Timothy change?
7. Write about someone who has changed their life by becoming a Christian.

### PART B

#### Read:

Sometimes we don't understand why things happen, but God does. Having the pencils stolen seemed like a bad thing. Who would want their beautiful new set of pencils stolen? But God turned the bad thing into something good. Jonathan learned about trusting God when things go wrong. Timothy was sorry for stealing the pencils and came to know Jesus.

#### Copy and fill in the missing words:

#### What should I do when things go wrong?

I can trust God, because He knows much \_\_\_\_\_ than I do.

I can trust God to make the bad thing turn to something \_\_\_\_.

*(Missing words: good more)*

## The Carpenter's Tools

The Carpenter loved His tools. Each one was precious to Him. He had a special place for each one, and always made sure that they were kept in excellent condition. His tools were valuable to him because He needed them to do His work.

One day, in the absence of the Carpenter, a quarrel broke out among the tools.

"I am the most important tool," said the saw, "for without me the Carpenter could not cut the wood to the shape He needs."

"No, I am the most important," said the plane, "for without me the Carpenter could not make the wood fine and smooth."

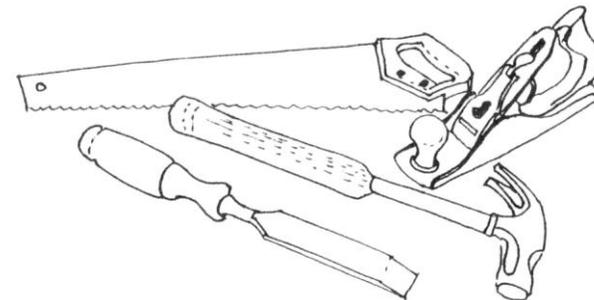
Then the chisel and hammer joined in. Each tool thought itself to be the most important.

The Carpenter returned. There was a hush over the workshop. He picked up the saw and set to work. Then he used the hammer, the chisel and plane in turn. After many hours, a beautiful wooden table was completed. The tools stared in wonder at the craftsmanship. Each tool realised

that they had all been needed to get the job done. Each one was as important as the other. The Toolmaker had given each one a special ability.

God has made each individual special to Him. No two people in the world are exactly alike. No two people in the world have the same fingerprints. Even identical twins are different in small ways. God cares so much about us that He makes each person unique.

We all have special abilities. Some are good at drawing or singing. Others are good at running or swimming. No matter what talents we have, we should use them for God. Some people are naturally cheerful and friendly. Others have a natural desire to help people. For some, their special gift is bringing pleasure to others. When we use our gifts and talents for God, we are like lights shining out to the world.



## The Carpenter's Tools Activities

### PART A

1. Who was the Carpenter?
2. How do we know that the carpenter cared for His tools?
3. Why was there a quarrel?
4. What is the meaning of *valuable*?
5. Who is valuable to God?
6. Name some of your friends and write down the special gifts and abilities that God has given them.
7. What special gifts and abilities has God given you?

### PART B

#### Read:

We are His special creation. We are more special than the animals. Psalm 139 tells us that we are wonderfully made. Everyone is special. Everyone is different. Everyone has something special they can do for God.

#### Copy and fill in the missing words:

##### What can I do for God?

I can share His \_\_\_\_\_ with others.

I can do my very \_\_\_\_\_ for Him.

I can serve Him with the talents He has \_\_\_\_\_ me.

**Missing words:** *best given love*

## The Wisdom of Solomon

Do you remember the story of David and Goliath? When David grew up he became king of Israel. David's youngest son was called Solomon. The Lord chose Solomon to be the new king when David died.

It was Solomon's responsibility to organise the building of the Lord's house. It would be a special building where people could come together to worship God. When Solomon was crowned king, he promised that he would always keep the Lord's commandments. After he was crowned, Solomon and the people went up to a place called Gibeon to give thanks to God. While they were there, God spoke to Solomon.

Read 1 Kings 3:4-14

Wisdom is knowing the right thing to do, and doing it.

Solomon needed wisdom. As king, Solomon had a lot of responsibility, and had to make a lot of decisions. He needed special wisdom in organizing the building of the temple. Solomon wrote many wise sayings. We can read them in a book called Proverbs.

There was a time when Solomon showed great wisdom in sorting out a quarrel between two women.

The two woman came to Solomon. One had a baby in her arms. The other woman wanted the baby. The woman without the baby started to explain, "I gave birth to a baby, and three days later, this woman had a baby also. But she lay on the baby while she was sleeping and the baby died. She came to my house and stole my baby. Now she says that the baby is hers."

"No!" cried the woman with the baby. "You are lying. The dead baby is yours and the living baby is mine."

How was Solomon to know who the real mother of the baby was? God gave him wisdom.

"Bring me a sword," said Solomon. "I will divide the baby in two."

(Solomon didn't really intend to harm the baby, but the women thought he was serious.)

"No!" cried the woman without the baby. Let this woman have the baby! Don't kill him!"

King Solomon now knew who the real mother was.

"Give the baby to this woman," said the king. "She is the mother."

Soon all of Israel knew of Solomon's wisdom. God gave him wisdom because he chose God above everything else. He could have chosen to be the richest man in the world, but instead he chose to have the wisdom of God.

### **The Wisdom of Solomon Activities**

1. What did God say to Solomon at Gibeon?
2. What is wisdom?
3. Why is it important to have wisdom?
4. How did Solomon find out who was the real mother of the baby?
5. Why did God give Solomon wisdom?
6. What could Solomon have asked for instead?

### **Read:**

Sometimes we have to make choices and decisions. God can help us to know the right thing to do. Solomon chose to have wisdom rather than riches. We can make the same choice. Having Jesus in our life is far more important than being rich.

**Copy and fill in the missing words:** *wisdom listen people*

### **How can I become wise?**

I can ask God for \_\_\_\_\_.

I can \_\_\_\_\_ to what God has to say.

I can listen to \_\_\_\_\_ who are wiser than me.

## The Angel of Light

Long ago, before the world was created, there lived a beautiful creature named Lucifer. The Father and the Son had created Lucifer along with many other beautiful creatures, but now they wished they had never made him. Lucifer had joined with some of the other creatures in a special plot to overthrow the Father and Son.

Lucifer declared war, and there was a battle in Heaven. The battle, however, could not be won by the evil forces. God's power proved to be greater than any evil power! Lucifer, and his army of evil angels, were thrown to a place of outer-darkness where they would live forever.

Meanwhile, the Father and Son decided to create a beautiful planet called earth, which would be home for man and woman. The man and woman were created to be friends with the Father and Son. However, someone in outer-darkness was watching. Once again he would try to destroy the power of the Father and the Son. He would try to make the man and woman obey him instead of their Creator.

Would the man and woman stand up to the test? Would they obey Lucifer or their Creator? To the Father's dismay,

the man and woman chose to obey Lucifer. The Father was filled with sadness. There was now only one thing to do. The Son would have to be sent to earth to live amongst the people. He would become a man and later die. By doing this, the power of Lucifer would be broken, and once again the man and the woman could be friends with the Father. In order to be friends with the Father, the people would first have to accept the Son and ask Him for forgiveness.

Many did accept the Son, and for them, the power of Lucifer was broken. They were set free from their sadness, and were no longer persuaded by the evil one. They became children of God. Lucifer would sometimes try to make them return to following him, but as they continued to trust God they found the strength to resist the temptation of the evil one.

Although they still had to battle against evil, they knew that for them, the battle had been won. They now had the love of God in their hearts and knew that they would be God's children forever. They knew from reading God's special book that they had a place prepared for them in a beautiful city called Heaven. The book also told them that one day the work of Lucifer would be completely finished and he would be destroyed forever.

## The Angel of Light Activities

1. What does Lucifer mean?
2. Who is Lucifer?
3. Why was he called by this name?
4. What did Lucifer do to try and be more powerful than God?
5. How did Lucifer gain power over the man and the woman?
6. How was this power broken?
7. What will happen to Satan in the end? (Revelation 20:10)
8. Read about the children of darkness and the children of light from 1 John 1:5-7 and Ephesians 5:8-11.
9. Make a list of opposites. Put the words showing **light** on the left, and the words showing **darkness** on the right. For example, *goodness* is the opposite of *sin*; *truth* is the opposite of *lying*. Draw yellow boxes around the words that show light, and black boxes around words that show darkness.

◆ WORKS OF LIGHT:

goodness, truth, love, kindness, faith, joy

◆ WORKS OF DARKNESS:

sin, lying, hate, unkindness, fear, sadness

10. Look up these Bible verses and write sentences to explain what to do when we are:  
feeling selfish....Galatians 6:2-3  
tempted.....Ephesians 6:10-11

## Heaven

Heaven will be a beautiful place. It will be far more beautiful than any place here on earth. The book that tells us most about Heaven is the very last book of the Bible called Revelation.

What will make Heaven such a beautiful place? Firstly, it will look beautiful. Do you like gold and precious jewels? Well, Heaven is full of these. There is a city in Heaven called the Holy City. The whole city shines like a precious stone. In fact it is made of crystal. The city is as clear as glass and so are the walls around it. The foundation stones upon which the city is built are precious stones that we have here on earth. They are jasper, sapphire, agate, emerald, onyx, carnelian, yellow quartz, beryl, topaz, chalcedony, turquoise and amethyst. The streets of the city are made from pure gold. Nothing impure is allowed into the city. That is why only the purest of metals and precious stones are used.

Another reason for Heaven being such a beautiful place is that there is no sickness, sadness, crying, pain or dying there. These things were brought into our world when Satan had his way in the Garden of Eden. However God has promised that Satan will one day be destroyed forever. He will be

thrown into a lake of fire. None of his evil works will be allowed into Heaven. Just as everything used in the building of the city is pure, so are the people in it. God will take away all sin from people's lives if they have asked for forgiveness. There won't be any need for police in Heaven. You might think that all those precious jewels and the gold might get stolen. However, there is no risk of that happening. No one wants to lie, kill or steal, because those who live in Heaven are true followers of Jesus.

The Bible calls the people who live in Heaven 'the saints'. They are people who have had their names written in the book of life. The good thing is that anyone can have their name written in the book of life if they truly want to be a follower of Jesus. Even people who have done really bad things on this earth can go to Heaven. If they decide to change, and to ask Jesus for forgiveness, then God will accept them. However, they must decide to become a follower of Jesus sometime during their life on earth.

There is a tree of life and a river of life in Heaven too. The river has pure water which sparkles as crystal. Its refreshing water gives life to all who live there. Near the river is a tree which gives fruit twelve times a year.

No one will need to sleep in Heaven because no one ever gets tired. It's just as well because there's no darkness. It's just beautiful daylight all the time. However, the sun does not make the light. Because God is light, He will be the light for us in Heaven.

God will sit on a beautiful throne in Heaven because He will be king. There will be angels in Heaven too. They are God's special messengers. However, we are more important to God than even the angels. We were created to love and praise Him, and in Heaven we will just love spending time with God, telling Him how much we love Him.

## Heaven Activities

### PART A

1. What things will NOT be in Heaven?
2. Who will be in Heaven?
3. What is the Holy City like?
4. What is it made of?
5. What colours are the jewels? (Try to find out more information from books, an encyclopaedia, dictionary or computer.)
6. What will God be sitting on?

7. Why do you think the book of life, the tree of life and the river of life are needed in Heaven?
8. Draw a picture of Heaven.

### PART B

#### Read:

Although Satan was once the angel of light, his works are works of darkness. God uses the word **darkness** to stand for things that are evil. He uses the word **light** to speak about things that are good, pure and holy. Jesus tells us to walk in the light, just as He is in the light. This means that as followers of Jesus we must live a life that is good, pure and holy.

#### Copy and fill in the missing words:

#### How can I walk in the light?

I live as a child of the \_\_\_\_\_.

I can show goodness and truth in my \_\_\_\_\_.

I can obey God's \_\_\_\_\_.

I can do what Jesus would \_\_\_\_\_.

**Missing words:** *life do word light*

## The Little Red Hen

Once upon a time there was a little red hen who wanted to make a loaf of bread, but she had no flour.

"I shall grow some wheat," she said.

The little red hen asked her chicks to help her.

"First we must plant the wheat," she said.

The little red hen asked the other farmyard animals to help too.

"Who will help to plant the wheat?" she asked.

"Not I," said the dog.

"Not I," said the cat.

"Not I," said the mouse.

So the little red hen and her chicks planted the wheat by themselves.

The wheat grew, and the heads turned to golden brown.

"We must harvest the wheat," said the little red hen to her chicks. "Then we must collect the grain and put it into sacks."

"Who will help me harvest the wheat?" the little red hen asked the other farm animals.

"Not I," said the dog.

"Not I," said the cat.

"Not I," said the mouse.

So the little red hen and her chicks harvested the wheat and put the grain into sacks all by themselves.

"Now we must take the sacks of wheat to the mill to be ground into flour." said the little red hen. "Who will help me?" she asked the other animals.

"Not I," said the dog.

"Not I," said the cat.

"Not I," said the mouse.

So the little red hen and her chicks took the wheat to the mill and brought back the freshly ground flour.

"Now it is time to make the bread," said the little red hen.

"Who will help me knead the dough?" she asked.

"Not I," said the dog.

"Not I," said the cat.

"Not I," said the mouse.

So the little red hen and her chicks made the bread by themselves. Soon some hot brown loaves were taken out of the oven. They smelled delicious.

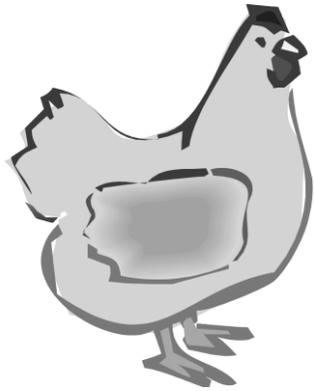
"Who will help me eat the bread?" the little red hen asked.

"I will," said the cat.

"I will," said the dog.

"I will," said the mouse.

"Oh no," said the little red hen. "You wouldn't help me to plant the wheat, or to harvest the wheat, or to put the grain into sacks, or to take the sacks to the mill, or to knead the dough. My chicks and I will eat the bread ourselves. And they did!



## The Little Red Hen Activities

### PART A

1. Who refused to help the little red hen?
2. These are the things the little red hen had to do to make bread. Put them in the right order by writing a number next to each one:
  - ◆ knead the dough
  - ◆ take the sacks to the mill
  - ◆ plant the wheat
  - ◆ harvest the wheat

- ◆ put the bread in the oven
  - ◆ put the grain into sacks
3. What is the meaning of *harvest*?
  4. Find out the meaning of **diligent**. (Use your dictionary)
  5. Doing lots of hard work, and sticking to it requires patience. What jobs do you need to have patience for?

### PART B

#### Read:

God does everything very well. When He created the world, God said it was good. He has taken patience and care to design plants and animals so beautifully. When watches were first invented, they were made very carefully by hand, using many, many tiny parts. A watch maker had to work with patience and care. God wants us to do things patiently and carefully. He wants us to do things well. Doing things patiently and sticking to the job, is being diligent.

#### Copy and fill in the missing words:

##### How can I be diligent?

I can do things with \_\_\_\_\_.

I can do things with \_\_\_\_\_.

I can try to do things \_\_\_\_\_.

I will not give up when the job seems \_\_\_\_\_!

**Missing words:** *patience care well big*

## The Fisherman's Wife

This is an old folk tale about a lady who lived with her husband in an old shack. They were very poor. One day the husband went fishing and caught a large fish. To his surprise, the fish spoke.

"Please, Mr. Fisherman, let me go, for I am not really a fish but a prince."

So the fisherman let the fish go. When he went home, he told his wife about the fish. She exclaimed, "Why didn't you ask for anything first? Surely this fish could have granted you a wish. Go back and catch the fish again. Tell the fish that I am tired of living in this old shack. I want to live in a house."

So the fisherman went back to the sea and caught the fish again. He asked the fish to grant his wife's wish.

"Alright," said the fish. "Your wish is granted. Just let me go again."

When the fisherman returned home he found his wife living in a lovely house. But she soon became tired of the house.

"Go back and catch the fish again," she said. Tell him I'm tired of living in this house. I want a mansion."

So the fisherman went back to the sea and caught the fish again. He told the fish that his wife now wanted a mansion. "You're wish is granted," said the fish. "Just let me go."

When the fisherman returned, he found his wife living in a mansion, but she soon became tired of it.

"I want to be a queen and live in a palace," she said.

Once more the fish granted her wish. But soon she became tired of being queen.

"Go back to the fish," she said to her husband, and tell him that I want to be God so that I can rule the world."

The fisherman went back to the sea. He caught the fish again and told him of his wife's request.

"Go home," said the fish, "and you will find your wife living in the old shack."

Of course, this story is only make-believe, but it does show us the danger of desiring to be too great, or more important than everyone else.

## The Fisherman's Wife Activities

### PART A

1. The fish said, "I am not really a fish but a \_\_\_\_\_".
2. Give two reasons why this story couldn't be true.
3. Put the steps in the story in order, by placing a number next to each.
  - ◆ The wife wanted a mansion.
  - ◆ The wife wanted a house.
  - ◆ The wife wanted to be God.
  - ◆ The wife wanted a palace.
4. What does Jesus say about being great? (Read Matthew 18:1-4)
5. How do we know the wife was proud?
6. What does it mean to be humble?
7. What does *The Fisherman's wife* story teach us?

### PART B

#### Read:

Jesus was the greatest servant that ever lived. He was not proud. He did not boast about how good He was. He did not show off. He did things to help people. He always thought about others more than He thought about Himself. Jesus was humble. A humble person is not proud. A humble person does not try to be great. But a humble person IS great in the eyes of God.

### Copy and fill in the missing words:

#### How can I be a humble servant?

I can think of others as being \_\_\_\_\_ important than myself.

I can \_\_\_\_\_ myself.

I do not have to \_\_\_\_\_ off.

I do not have to try to be \_\_\_\_\_.

**Missing words:** show great more be