



FAMILY LIFE RESOURCES

Growing Together, Rooted in Faith - Colossians 2:7

I AM:

THE WAY

THE TRUTH

AND THE LIFE
John 14:6

In this Month's family devotionals, we explore John 14:6. We'll discuss how Jesus is our guide to God, the source of all truth, and the giver of eternal life, helping us understand the importance of following Him in our daily lives.



FAMILY LIFE RESOURCES

Growing Together, Rooted in Faith - Colossians 2:7

We are thrilled to announce that we are expanding our family resources here at First Church! Our heartfelt mission is to empower and equip parents to guide their children in this endeavor to love, honor, and serve God with their lives. We aim not only to provide a vibrant, faith-filled, and enjoyable environment for your children within our church community but also to acknowledge that a few hours out of 168 hours that make up a week isn't enough time to focus on or walk with God. We understand the challenges of busy schedules and endless household tasks, which is why we're dedicated to offering resources that are easy to use, relevant, and, most importantly, honor God with the goal of supporting you and your family. We pray these resources make an eternal difference in the lives of families like yours.

Blessings,
First Church Family Life Ministries

Colossians 2:7 Let your roots grow down into Him,
And let your lives be built on Him.

Then, your faith will grow strong in
The truth you were taught...



**FAMILY LIFE
RESOURCES**

The Work of the Resurrected Christ

SPRING 2024

APRIL **The Good Shepherd** (John 10)

MAY **Promises and Power** (Acts 1&2)
- The Great Commission
- The Ascension Promise
- Pentecost Power

SUMMER 2024

JUNE **Jesus Christ Our Lord** (John 14:6)
- The Way
- The Truth
- The Life

JULY **VBS Follow Up & Armor of God** (Eph. 6:10-20)

AUGUST ***"I Am the Vine, and You Are the Branches"***
(John 15:1)

FALL 2024

SEPTEMBER **We Believe** (The coming of the Holy Spirit)

OCTOBER **I Am ... The Bread of Life**

WINTER 2024

NOVEMBER **We Believe ...**

DECEMBER **I Am the Light of the World** (John 8:12)



**FAMILY LIFE
RESOURCES**

I AM: the Way, the Truth and the Life

JOHN 17:20-21

“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.”

LESSON 1

I AM the WAY - to the Father

Parent's Passage: John 14:1-11

Family Reading: Miracles of Jesus. (From the *Map of Miracles* map activity)

Key Verse: John 14:6

"Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Encourage your family to take turns sharing stories about Jesus. You can start by telling a well-known story and then have each family member add to it. This activity can help strengthen your family's faith and create meaningful connections with each other.

FAMILY QUESTIONS

"Why is it important for us to know and tell the stories of Jesus?"

"Because Jesus did so many miracles, what do you learn about Him?"

"How do we show others the Father?"

Jesus was nearing the end of His three years with His disciples. He is preparing them for His departure. His disciples get in a

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panic and say, ***“Wait! Where are you going?”***

Just like a parent, Jesus reassures them that He will come back for them, but Thomas persists, ***“Just show us the Father and it will be enough for us.”***

Read John 14:9-11. This passage explains clearly that following Jesus is the only way to the Father.

CONCLUSION

We can demonstrate the concept of the Father to our children by sharing stories about Jesus. During His three years with His disciples, Jesus shared many stories, which were then recorded.

We can read these stories to our families. Choose a Bible translation that suits your family and read some of the stories about Jesus. The Gospel of Mark is an excellent place to start. By sharing these stories, we can introduce our children to the concept of the Father, one story at a time.

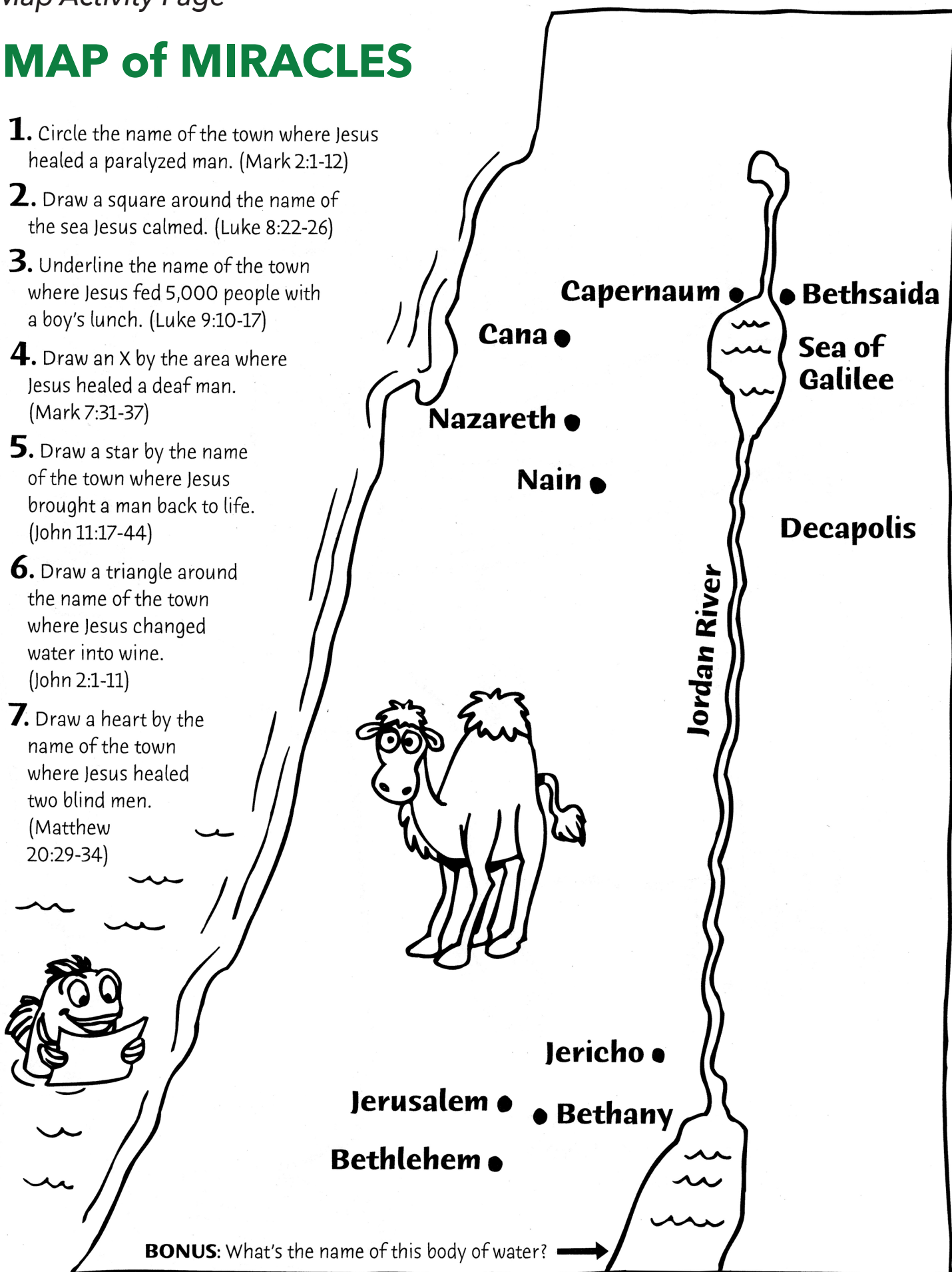
PRAYER

“We thank You for Jesus, who is the way, the truth, and the life. As we meditate on your word today, we are grateful for its reminder that we approach You through Him. May we always walk in the footsteps of Jesus, embracing His truth and the abundant life He offers us.

In Jesus' name, Amen.”

MAP of MIRACLES

1. Circle the name of the town where Jesus healed a paralyzed man. (Mark 2:1-12)
2. Draw a square around the name of the sea Jesus calmed. (Luke 8:22-26)
3. Underline the name of the town where Jesus fed 5,000 people with a boy's lunch. (Luke 9:10-17)
4. Draw an X by the area where Jesus healed a deaf man. (Mark 7:31-37)
5. Draw a star by the name of the town where Jesus brought a man back to life. (John 11:17-44)
6. Draw a triangle around the name of the town where Jesus changed water into wine. (John 2:1-11)
7. Draw a heart by the name of the town where Jesus healed two blind men. (Matthew 20:29-34)



LESSON 2

I AM the TRUTH

Parent's Passage: John 1:14,17-18
John 18:36-37
Matthew 5

Family Reading: A portion of Matthew 5

Key Verse: John 8:32

"Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

What is the Truth of who Jesus is that families need to know?

A day after Jesus said, ***"I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life"*** (John 14:6), He is taken to Pilate, who again asked who He was. (John 18:28-40) After an exchange of words, Jesus replies, ***"My Kingdom is not of this world"***. (John 18:36) In verse 37, He states His purpose: ***"For this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth."*** Then Pilate asks, ***"What is truth?"***

The truth about Jesus Christ that we must come to understand is the He represents the Kingdom of Heaven. God the Father did not send a diplomat to this earth to explain His Kingdom. He sent His Son! He sent the King! (John 18:37)

His message to the Jews and Gentiles was this: "I want to introduce you to the Kingdom of Heaven." New rules apply in His Kingdom.

Go to the passage describing the beginning of His ministry in

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Matthew 4:17&23. He is showing and telling the Good News of the Kingdom of Heaven. In Matthew 5 He addresses a large crowd. Chapter 5 is an introduction to the Kingdom of Heaven.

We sometimes struggle to understand The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-16) because God's ways are above our ways. His Kingdom is not like the Kingdoms of men. In John 14 Jesus said His Holy Spirit would explain the things of His Kingdom to us.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Parents: read and meditate on the passages in John and Matthew. Introduce your family to this concept of the Kingdom of Heaven. Read portions of Matthew 5 and talk about them.

The following activities are designed to help you explore together what it means to be a part of the Kingdom of Heaven.

- 1. Find a red-letter edition of the Bible, or a red-letter Bible App, and show the words of Jesus from Matthew 5 and John 14 & 18. This will help us know and understand the importance of Jesus' words.**
- 2. Compare the rules of different establishments - Churches, Schools, Town Halls, Government Buildings, Sporting Venues, etc. How are they different from each other? How are some the same?**
- 3. Make a list of some of your "Family Rules". How do they help reflect the rules of the Kingdom as explained by Jesus in Matthew chapter 5?**

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4. Here are a few “Radical New Kingdom Rules”, taken from Matthew, Chapter 5. See how many more you can find listed in Matthew 5.

“You Have Heard It Said ...”

Verse 21	<i>Do not murder</i>
Verse 38	<i>An eye for an eye</i>
Verse 43	<i>Love your neighbor</i>
Verse	
Verse	
Verse	
Verse	
Verse	
Verse	
Verse	

“But I Tell You ...”

<i>Do not say, “You fool”</i>
<i>Give to those who ask</i>
<i>Love your enemy</i>

CONCLUSION

Talk about Jesus’ instructions for a new way of living and thinking. What principles from Matthew 5 and 6 can your family implement?

Write a few “Kingdom Rules” on a poster to help your family remember that we are part of the Kingdom of Heaven.

LESSON 3

I AM the Life

Parent's Passage: John 14:15-21

Family Reading: John 11:25-27

Key Verse: John 5:24

"I tell you the truth, whoever hears My Word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life"

Early in His ministry Jesus used words to tell His followers that He had the power of eternal life to give to those who believed. (John 5:24)

Then toward the end of His ministry, He demonstrated this power by raising Lazarus from the dead. (John 11)

During His last supper with His disciples He explains more fully His power over life and death. (John 14)

He goes one step further and explains that His life can be in us also. The following activities will help us understand these concepts.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

- 1. Find an easy to read Bible translation such as the New Living Bible or NIV, or a children's Bible. Read John**

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11: 1-45. Talk about this amazing story as a family. Why did Jesus wait before He returned to Bethany? Why did Thomas think Jesus would die? Why did the Preists want to kill Jesus?

- 2. Memorize John 14:6 together. Say it several times together:**

"Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

- 3. Gather 2 envelopes, one small enough to fit inside the other. Find a token - a coin or a small cross - to represent us. Look up John 14:20 in your Bible. Lay the Bible open on a table and gather the family around. Take the token and say, "This represents us." Put it inside the smaller envelope, and label it "Jesus". Say, "We are safe in Jesus." Then, take that small envelope and place it inside the larger one. Label that envelope "God the Father". Say, "We are hidden in Christ in Gf the Father".**

This is a mystery, but the Holy Spirit can help us understand this.

PRAYER

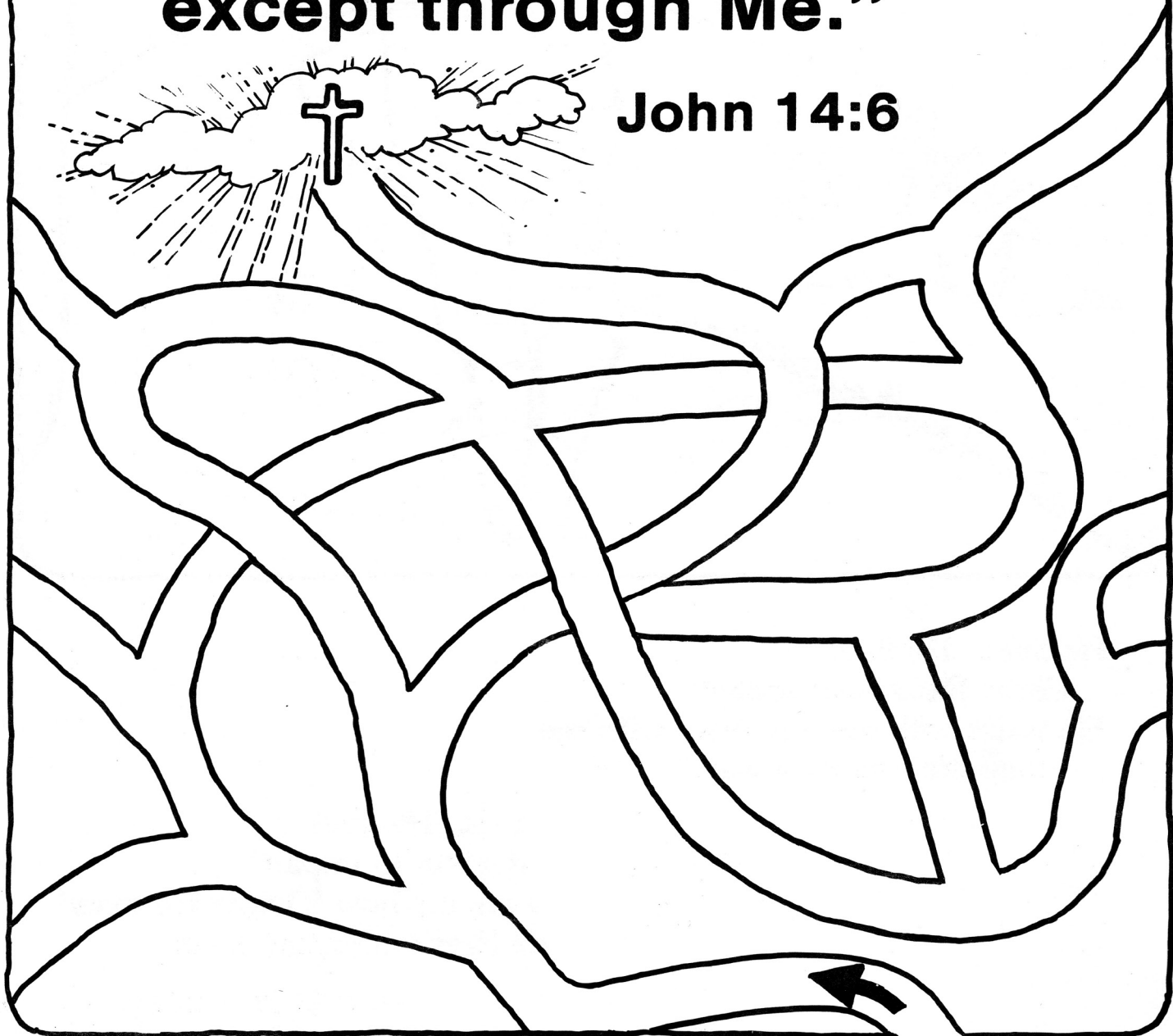
"Thank You, Lord, for giving us the Life of Christ in our lives. Help us to understand His presence with us, and help us to follow His voice through Your Holy Spirit.

Thank you, Father, for sending Your Son Jesus.

**Jesus said, “I AM the
way, the truth, and
the life. No one comes
to the Father
except through Me.”**



John 14:6





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