

*Nurturing Faith...  
Every Day in Every Way*

August 27, 2017

**Twelfth Sunday of Pentecost**

*Isaiah 51:1-6*

*Psalms 138*

*Romans 12:1-8*

*Matthew 16:13-20*



**Back to School.** *Objects: School supplies, books, or other school-related objects.*

It's back to school time again! Some of you are probably feeling excited. Some of you may be a little sad that summer is over. You may feel nervous or a little scared about going back to school because of all the new things that you will have to face. You will have new teachers, some new friends, and some of you may even be going to a new school.

On the first day of school, the teacher will probably ask some questions to see how much you already know. When the teacher asks a question to which you know the answer, you might wave your hand excitedly in the air and say, "I know! I know!" It is a great feeling when you know the answer, isn't it?

In our Bible lesson today, the disciples are going "back to school." Can you guess who their teacher is? Right! Jesus is their teacher. Jesus often took his disciples aside to teach them important lessons about the Kingdom of God. This was one of those days. Jesus began his lesson that day by asking his disciples a question.

"Who do men say that I am?" Jesus asked.

I imagine that one of the disciples raised his hand and said, "I know! I know! Some people say that you are John the Baptist."

Then another of the disciples raised his hand and said, "I know! I know! Some people say you are Elijah."

A third disciple raised his hand and said, "Some people say that you are Jeremiah or one of the other prophets."

"Very good," Jesus said, "that is what other people are saying, but who do you say that I am?"

You know, I think that Peter was so excited that he forgot to raise his hand. I think he just called out to Jesus, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

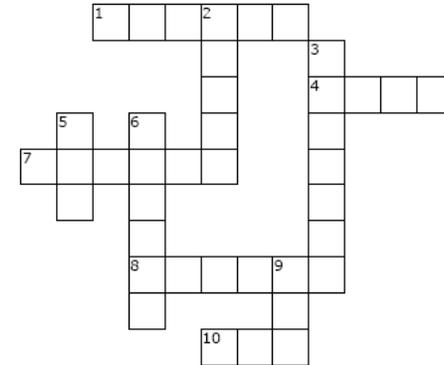
Jesus said, "You are right, Peter. You didn't learn that from listening to other people. It was taught to you by my Father in heaven."

The lesson that the disciples learned that day is just as important today as it was then. Many people in our world today still do not know who Jesus is. You and I need to be ready with the answer, "He is the Christ, the Son of the living God."

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia. You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God. Alleluia. (Matthew 16:16)

Dear Father, when people are searching for the answer to the question, "Who is Jesus?" help us to be ready with the answer. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.  
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## Crossword Puzzle



### ACROSS

- Persons; men, women, and children; human beings
- A large stone that sticks up out of the ground or the sea
- A male parent
- The Messiah, as foretold by the prophets
- An adult male human being

### DOWN

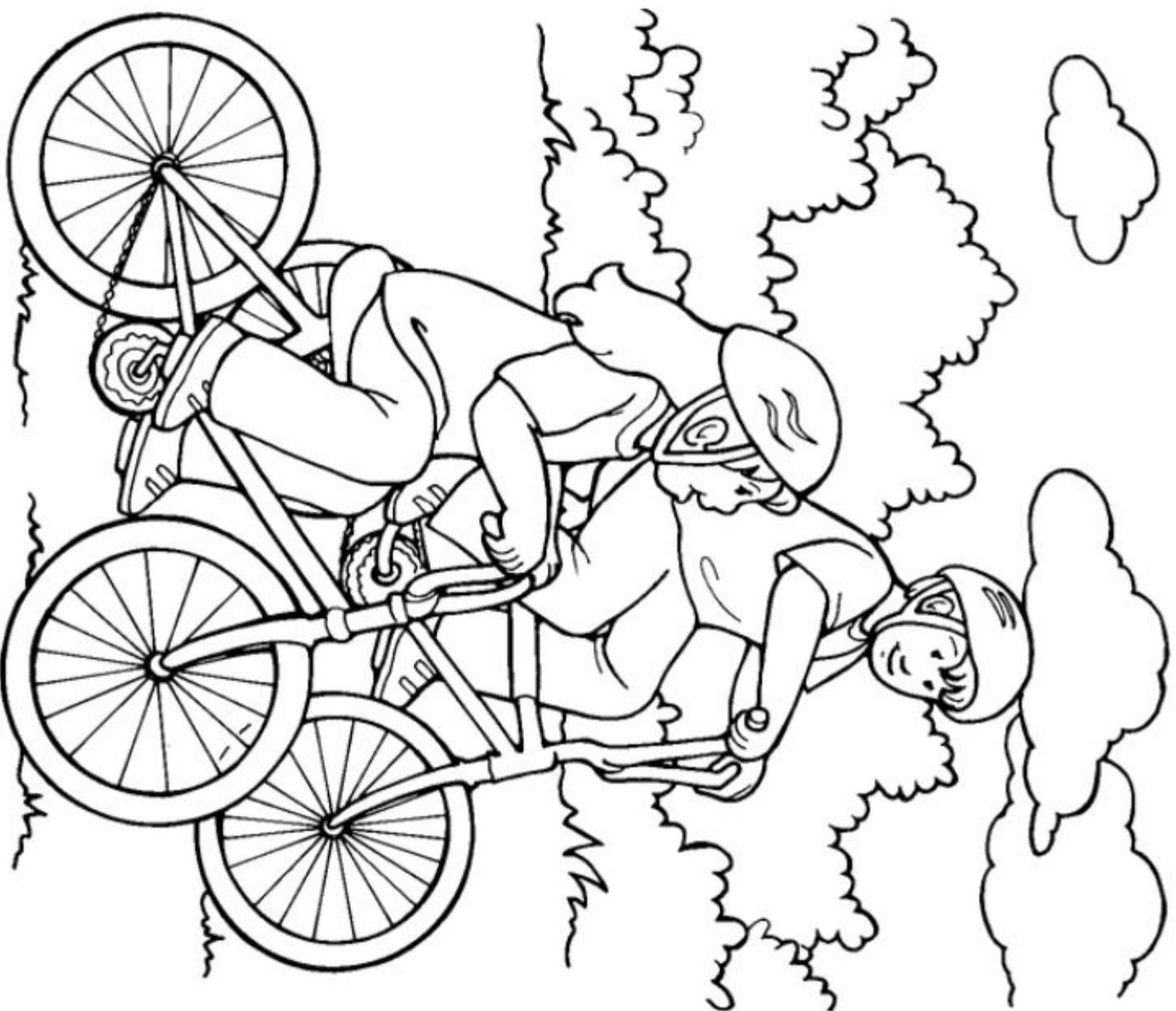
- The name that Jesus called Simon
- A persons who speaks for God
- To speak
- The whole body of believers in Christ
- A male child in relation to his parents

PETER	FATHER	PEOPLE	SON	CHRIST
PROPHET	ROCK	MAN	CHURCH	SAY

**ROCK PAINTING:** Give the child a large rock to paint. They could paint a large CROSS on the rock and paint the words JESUS IS THE ROCK. For smaller rocks, they can paint a cross and the word JESUS. The larger the rock, the better the art work!



# I CAN TELL MY FRIENDS ABOUT JESUS



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