

Nurturing Faith...
Every Day in Every Way



September 23, 2018

Proverbs 31:10-31

Psalm 1 (3)

James 3:13 — 4:3, 7-8a

Mark 9:30-37



Fans or Followers?

Object: A key ring with lots of keys.

Look at this key ring! Have you ever seen so many keys? They come in all different shapes and sizes. Which of these keys do you think is the most important? Well, if I want to get into my house, this would be the most important key. If I wanted to drive my car, this key would be the most important. Look at this little tiny key. Surely it couldn't be very important. Unless, of course, I needed to get into my locked suitcase. Then it would be pretty important!

It would be pretty silly to argue about which of these keys is the most important, wouldn't it? How about people? Have you ever heard people arguing among themselves about which of them is the greatest? I have! You might be surprised to know that even Jesus' disciples had such an argument. One day the disciples were walking along the road with Jesus and they began arguing among themselves. Jesus overheard them, and when they got to the place where they were going, he asked, "What were you arguing about on the road?" The disciples suddenly got very quiet. They were embarrassed because they had been arguing about which of them was the greatest.

Jesus sat down and called his disciples to him. "If anyone wants to be first," he said, "he must be the very last, and be the servant of everyone else."

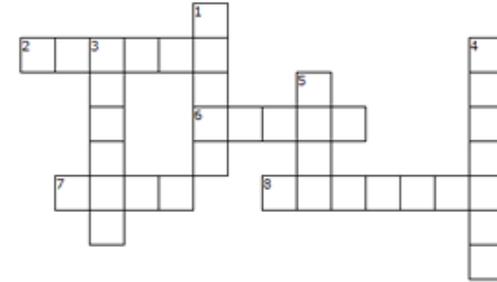
Now that wasn't exactly what the disciples wanted to hear. They were hoping to hear Jesus say that they were going to have a position of great importance in his kingdom. Instead, Jesus called a little child over to him and took him in his arms. "Anyone who welcomes one of these little children also welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me, also welcomes the one who sent me."

If I were to ask you, "Who is the greatest person who ever lived?" What would your answer be? Would you name a famous athlete? A movie star? A world leader? I think we would all agree that Jesus Christ was the greatest person who ever lived. Why? Because, although he was God, he gave up all of his divine privileges and became a servant.

If I were to ask you, "Who is the greatest person who ever lived?" What would your answer be? Would you name a famous athlete? A movie star? A world leader? I think we would all agree that Jesus Christ was the greatest person who ever lived. Why? Because, although he was God, he gave up all of his divine privileges and became a servant.

Loving God, give us a servant's heart. A heart like Jesus; one that puts others first, helps our neighbor, and shows your love to the whole world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 2. To experience injury, pain, or death
- 6. The evil enemy of God; the leader of the fallen angels
- 7. The spiritual part of a person which exists after death
- 8. The expected savior of the world

DOWN

- 1. The object upon which Jesus was crucified
- 3. To take someone as our leader or model
- 4. A person who speaks for God
- 5. To keep something from harm or loss

SUFFER	SATAN	SOUL	CROSS
MESSIAH	PROPHET	FOLLOW	SAVE

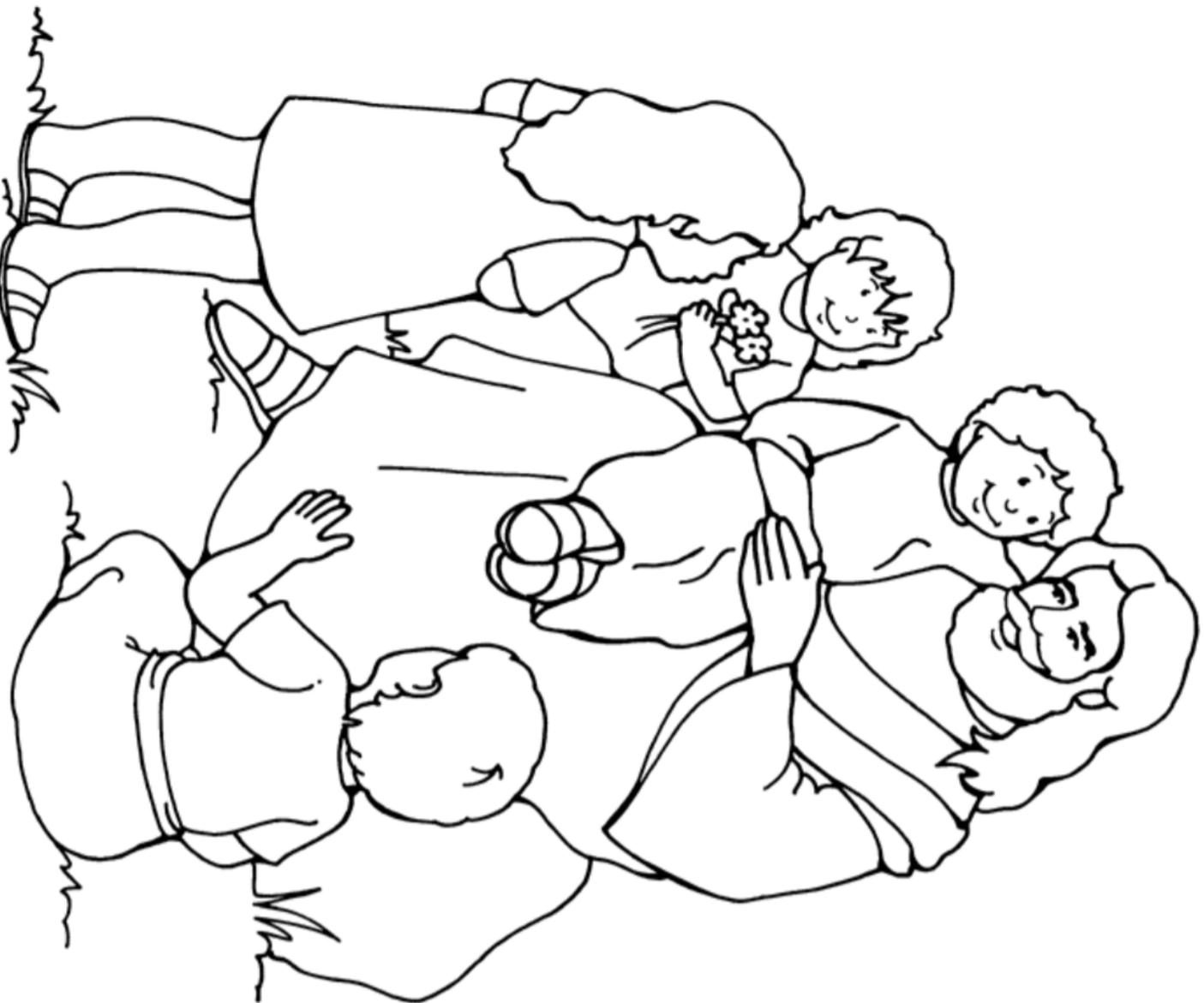
SERVANT'S HEART KEYS: Put a large poster board on the wall with heart shaped cut outs on the poster board.... Give each child a KEY (find a template to cut out on the internet) to write their own name on and decorate. When finished, each child will place their own key on one of the hearts on the poster board. Title the board: SERVANT'S HEART

Family Table Prayer for September

Thank you for the earth so sweet.
 Thank you for the food we eat.
 Thank you for the birds that sing.
 Thank you, God, for everything!

September Memory Verse: Rejoice in the Lord always! Again, I say rejoice!
 ~ Philippians 4:4

Jesus and the Children



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