

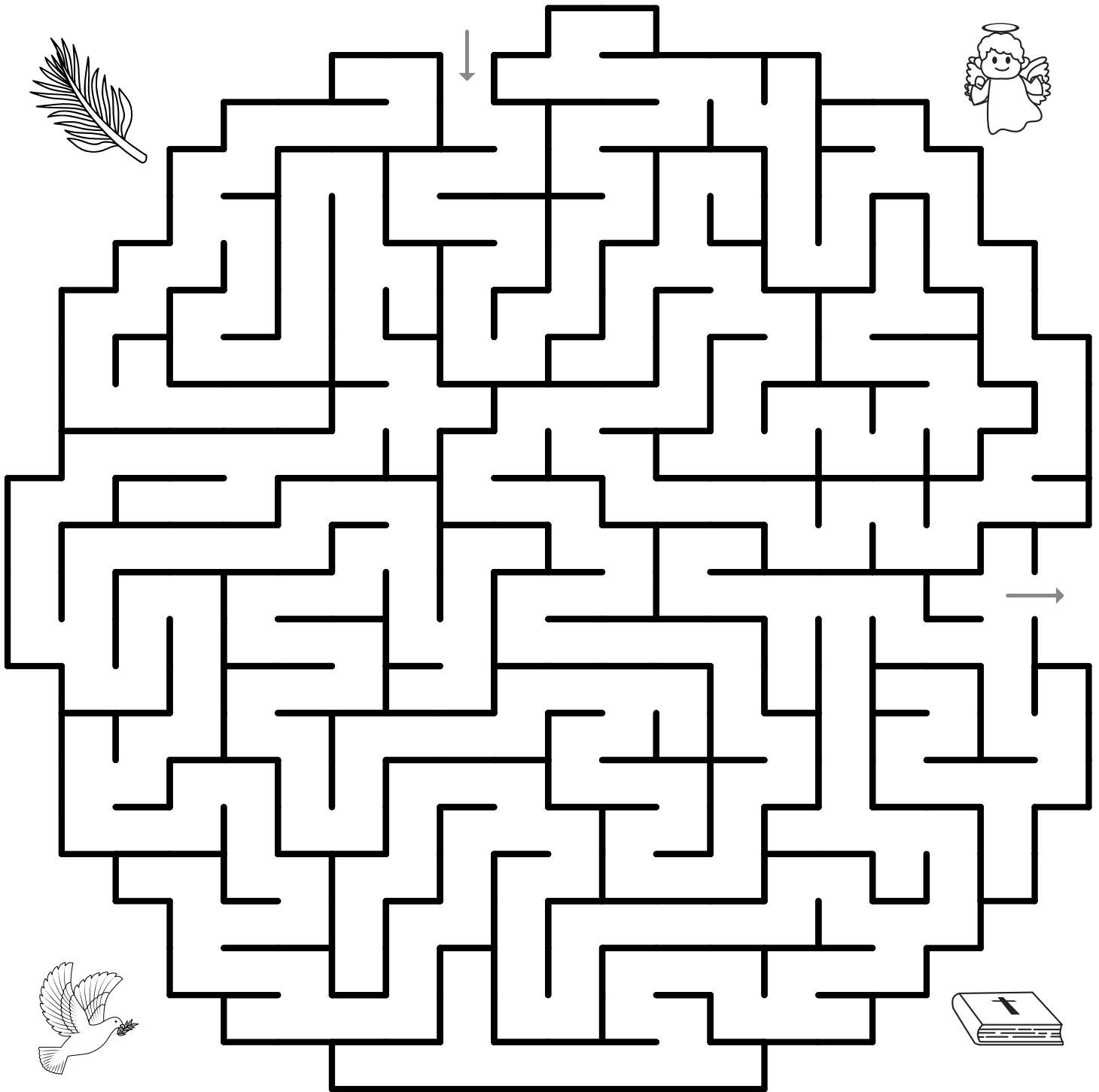


Hallelujah!

You have won the  
victory!



# EASTER MAZE



Scan for solution

# HYMN OF THE MONTH

## IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST, I GLORY

Author – John Bowring  
1792-1872

Composer – Ithamar Conkey  
1815 – 1867

Tune – Rathbun

*For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God ~ 1 Corinthians 1:18*

It is claimed by some writers that Sir John Bowring had visited Macao, on the South Chinese coast, and was much impressed by the sight of bronze cross towering on the summit of the massive wall of what had formerly been a great cathedral. This cathedral, originally built by the early Portuguese colonists, overlooked the harbor and had been destroyed by early Portuguese colonists, overlooked the harbor and had been destroyed by a typhoon and left crumbled in its wake-except for one wall topped by the huge metal cross. This scene is said to have impressed Bowring that it eventually served as the inspiration for this beloved hymn.

John Bowring was born at Exeter in Devon, England, on October 17, 1792. He was one of the most remarkable men of his day as well as one of the greatest linguists who ever lived. He was a member of nearly every learned society in Europe. Before he was sixteen years of age he had mastered five languages without the aid of a teacher. It is said that he could converse in over 100 different languages before his death.

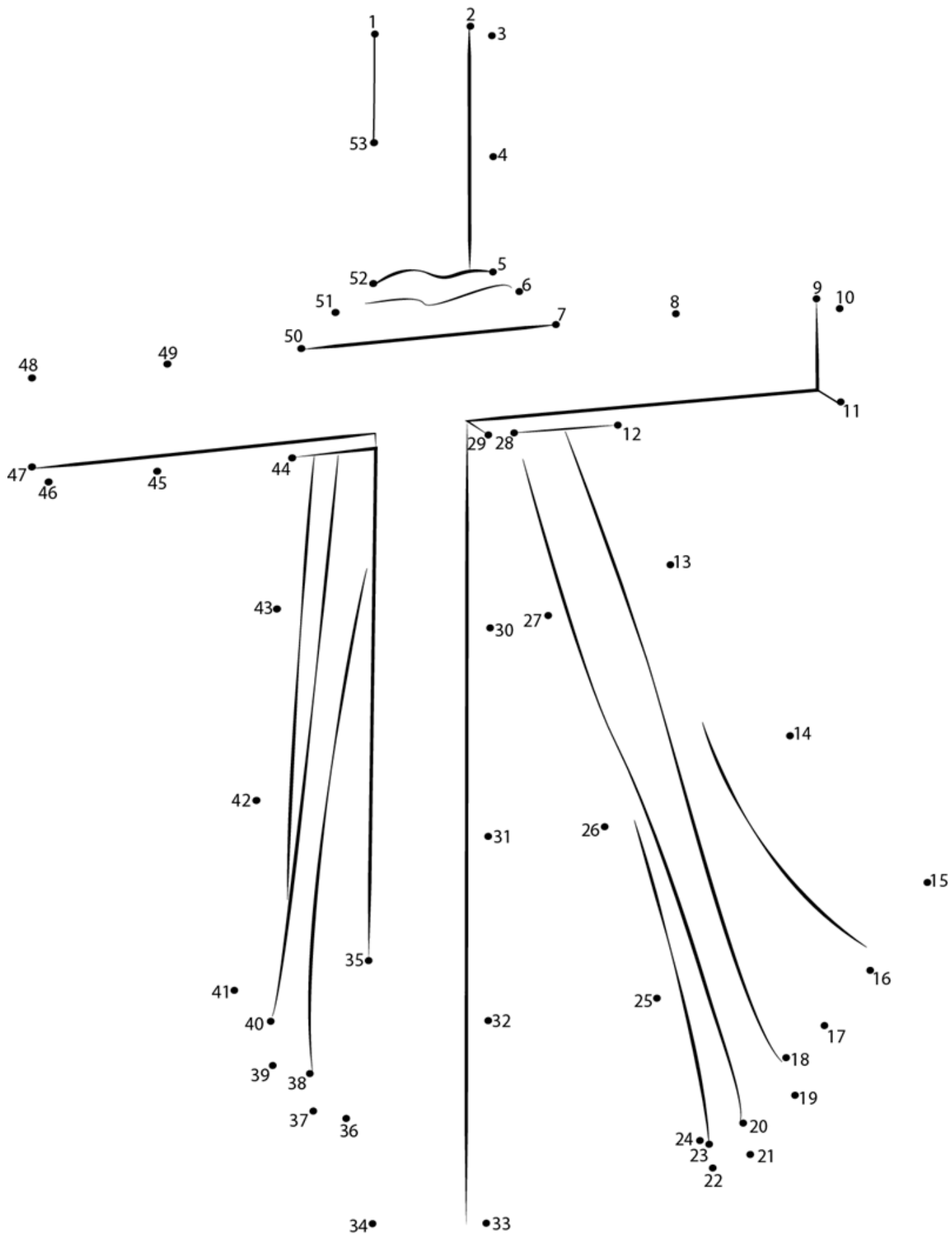
He was a prolific writer on the subjects of politics, economics, and religion as well as the author of many poems and hymns, including the rather familiar missionary hymn, "Watchman, Tell Us of the Night". Yet despite his many accomplishments, including thirty-six volumes of published works, John Bowring is known today primarily as the author of this simply stated hymn text. On his tombstone as inscribed the words of this hymn "In the cross of Christ I Glory"

In the cross of Christ I glory,  
Tow-ring o'er the wrecks of time;  
All the light of sacred story  
Gather round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'er take me  
Hope deceives and fears annoy  
Never shall the cross forsake me  
Le! It glows with peace and joy

When the sun of bliss is beaming  
Light and love upon my way  
From the cross the radiance streaming  
Adds more luster to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,  
By the cross are sanctified  
Peace is there that knows no measure,  
Joy that thru all time abide.





# Jesus Forgives Even THAT

By Mendie Skarp - <https://extravaganthope.com>

The day of Jesus' crucifixion and death was an extremely painful one – both physically and emotionally. Up until that point, he had revealed himself as the Chosen One. The One who had come to save people from their sins. He had performed miracles such as turning water into wine, feeding the 5,000, walking on water, calming the storm, healing illness, and driving out demons from the possessed.

Jesus had developed quite a following – none more devoted than the twelve disciples. These twelve men left everything, their jobs, homes, money and families to follow Jesus and to help him in his work. He was loved, revered and worshiped. But not by everyone. “The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death,...” Mark 14:55

The religious leaders of the day felt threatened. Jesus' teaching threatened their belief system, their status, their power and their wealth. They hated Jesus so much that they would stop at nothing to see him dead. They tried to find something that Jesus had done wrong. They tried to get others to testify against Jesus, but the stories didn't match and a case couldn't be made that Jesus deserved death. “...but they did not find any.” Mark 14:55

They took Jesus to the high priest, Caiaphas in hopes that he would sentence Jesus to death... after all he was a self proclaimed Jesus hater. Caiaphas asked Jesus if He was the Messiah, and Jesus answered truthfully, “I am,” said Jesus. Mark 14:62. At this, Caiaphas was outraged, declaring Jesus' claims to be blasphemous and he asked the crowd for their verdict. “They all condemn him as worthy of death.” Mark 14:64

And the Crucifixion began...

Jesus was falsely accused. Jesus was lied about. Jesus was mocked. Jesus was spit on. Jesus was blindfolded and punched with their fists.

“...they blindfolded him, struck him with their fists, and said, ‘Prophecy!’” Mark 14:65

Jesus was made fun of. They sarcastically ordered him to prove he was a prophet by naming those who were hitting him while he was blindfolded. Jesus was slapped over and over again.

“The guards, punching and slapping, took him away.” Mark 14:65

Jesus was insulted. “And they said many other insulting things to him.” Luke 22:65. He was denied three times by his closest friend, Peter. “...before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.” Mark 14:30

Jesus was then taken to Pontious Pilate, the Roman governor of Judea, and Pilate finds no fault with Jesus. But the crowd won't have it. They wanted Jesus dead. They shouted for Pilate to release a convicted insurgent against Rome and murderer so that Jesus could be crucified in his place. Even though Pilate finds no reason to put Jesus to death, the crowd persists and eventually Pilate agrees. “But with loud shouts they insistently demanded that he be crucified, and their shouts prevailed.” Luke 23:23

Jesus was unjustly convicted. Jesus was flogged. This means to be beaten with a leaded whip, fashioned with tiny lead balls and sharpened sheep bones that will tear at his flesh.





# EASTER CROSSWORD PUZZLE

FIND THE CORRECT ANSWERS TO THE CLUES AND FILL THEM INTO THE CROSSWORD PUZZLE.

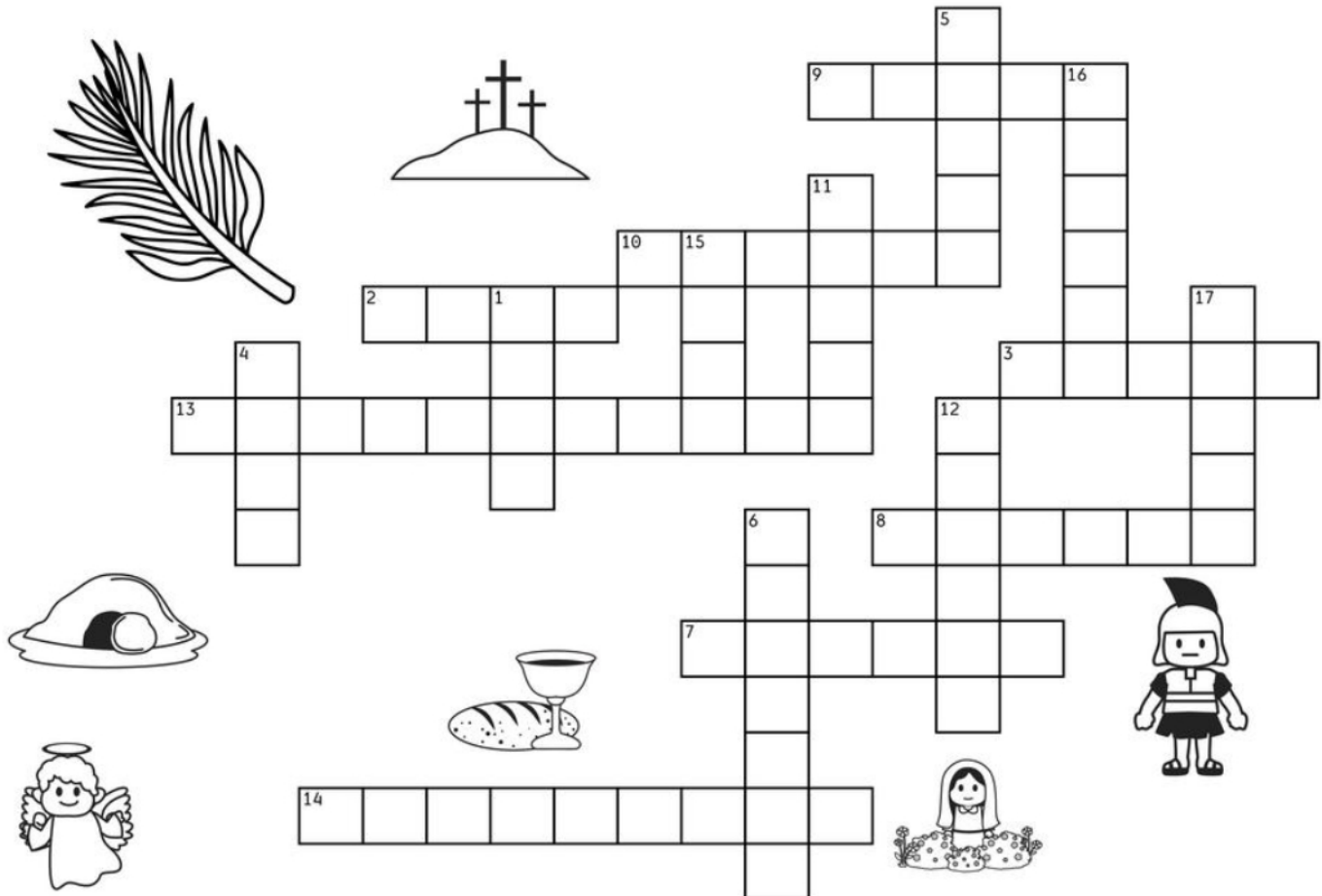


## DOWN

1. A STRONG FEELING OF FONDNESS
4. A LARGE, STately BURIAL VAULT
5. A COMPLETE TRUST IN A HIGHER POWER
6. A REMARKABLE EVENT THAT IS CONTRARY TO THE LAWS OF NATURE
11. A REPRESENTATION OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH
12. A LIVING ORGANISM THAT TYPICALLY PRODUCES PETALS, LEAVES, AND A STEM
15. TRUST IN SOMETHING GOOD TO HAPPEN
16. A PLACE WHERE THE RIGHTEOUS GO AFTER DEATH
17. A DISPOSITION TO BE KIND AND FORGIVING

## ACROSS

2. A TYPE OF EVERGREEN TREE FOUND IN TROPICAL CLIMATES
3. A FIGURE OF LIGHT IN SOME RELIGIONS
7. A REVERENT PETITION MADE IN WORDS OR THOUGHT
8. A BEAST OF BURDEN, RELATED TO THE HORSE
9. EXPIRATION OF LIFE
10. A PLACE OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP AND INSTRUCTION
13. CEASING TO FEEL RESENTMENT TOWARDS AN OFFENDER
14. INSECT THAT FLUTTERS AND GLIDES IN THE AIR



## Aries

**Silas McGee – 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Ashley Jonson – 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Nathaniel Byrd 26<sup>th</sup>**



Aries love to be number one, so it's no surprise that these audacious rams are the first sign of the zodiac. Bold and ambitious, Aries dives headfirst into even the most challenging situations (which is appropriate, since the body part associated with Aries is the head). Like their fellow fire signs, Leo and Sagittarius, Aries is a passionate, motivated, and confident leader who builds community with their cheerful disposition and relentless determination. Upon being complicated and direct in their approach they often get frustrated by exhaustive details and unnecessary nuance. They like quick and dirty things, a temperament also reflected in their sexual proclivities.

These fire signs think after they leap, which often results in lessons learned the hard way. Aries represent the singular spirit (while Aries's opposite sign, Libra, (symbolized partnership). These rams adhere to an "every person for themselves philosophy. Thile this self-determination can be inspiring. Aries need to watch out for selfish tendencies.

## Taurus

**Keon Anderson -30<sup>th</sup>**

These people are practical and persevering. Taureans are solid and reliable, regular in habits sometimes a bit wet behind the ears and stubborn as mules. This love of money and the comfort it can bring may make them very materialistic in outlook. They are most suited to a practical career that brings with it a few surprises and plenty of money. However, some Taureans have a strong artistic streak which can be expressed in work hobbies and interests 6. Some Taureans are quick and clever, highly amusing and quite outrageous in appearance but underneath this crazy exterior is a background of true talent and very hard work. This type may be a touch arrogant. Other Taureans hate to be rushed or hassled, preferring to work quietly and thoroughly at their own pace. They take relationships very seriously and make safe and reliable partners. They may keep their worries to themselves, but they are not usually liars and sexually untrustworthy.

# Jesus' Childhood

P G 2 T D Z Z A N Y I Q C U S 2 1 J 2 S E E C D  
 Z H 0 B N L E N E G L G 4 E D A M 1 D B W T 1 K  
 O T M V P T N G P L A K I L H R T 4 T Y Z C C J  
 O E O S Y E E E L L A Z C P U G L U K E 2 4 0 C  
 U R V S V A V L I I N W K M 1 R N F Z 4 C U W R  
 A A U E T W T L N Q J N K E M S E I P 4 I Y M E  
 F Z R N L T E K E R 2 J R T P N 0 T N Q V 2 Z G  
 A A D I B E M K D W U U W W K O 2 N N E O E R B  
 T N O S N Y N N J D T G 0 I G I T 4 J E T O E Q  
 N H C U M O Z C N N D F J C K T B C B P P S 2 G  
 F Q H B S C K D O M F M Q 2 Q S F S C H R R I L  
 M M G K T V A S H G S 0 A M D E C A N D O C A L  
 Z Z Y H N N R E H T A F C 2 W U A 0 M L O B U C  
 G Y T P E Y U Q O 4 T E N E Y Q K 1 O I K G E 1  
 Y Y R A R I 2 J E R U S A L E M 0 4 H I L F V B  
 K D 1 W A M E 1 A V P U P H 4 1 S S T Y E Y R Y  
 Y V G Z P K J G Z Z A T 0 1 0 M C U R S Q H N D  
 F H H D Q U Q Z Y G K Y Y P 1 P B S U M A R Y W  
 O K G K Y L G S Y I H V P H W O V E N Z C F P Q  
 E U J K A 1 A F U 2 V 0 V 4 L 4 A J H P E S O J  
 W O C Y 4 O G H 1 L C V O P B M L Q U K P T C Y  
 C K 4 J O H N T H E B A P T I S T N H L I V N P  
 K W B 4 V V Y Q I R Q F F O I A H N B U Q P N P  
 I Y K R C I O V L K R Y B D O Y C 4 J V A V I K

JOHN THE BAPTIST	QUESTIONS	LISTENING	JERUSALEM
CARPENTER	BUSINESS	LUKE 2:40	NAZARETH
GALILEE	PARENTS	FAMILY	TWELVE
TEMPLE	JOSEPH	FATHER	ANGEL
JESUS	MARY	J 12	GOD



*Continued from page 7*

Jesus was bleeding. Jesus was stripped and a purple robe (the color of royalty) is placed over his shoulders. A crown of thorns is placed on his head. The soldiers bow to him in mock worship.

“They put a purple robe on him, then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on him.” Mark 15:17. He was stripped of his pride as they beat His head with a reed. Jesus was publicly humiliated. Jesus’ hands and feet were nailed to a wooden cross and he was hung in the air for all to watch him die.

These were personal offenses. These men were touching Jesus, in his face mocking him, spitting on him. It is one on one. There is no hiding behind the scenes. Every lie, every blow, every insult, every humiliation was directly aimed at Jesus. It was intentional, it is unfathomable, to us, it seems unforgivable....

Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” Luke 23:34

It is inconceivable to me that Jesus died for even those people. Even those men who beat him. Even those people who shouted, “Crucify Him!”. Even those who mocked him. Even those who lied about him and humiliated him. Those are up close and personal sins. Those people hurt Jesus in a way that we can’t even imagine today. Our hearts cry out to God in unbelief and in sorrow for the way those people treated our Lord. And yet...

### **Jesus forgives even THAT.**

“If we confess our sins, he is

faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9

As Jesus hung on the cross, there were two others who hung beside him. Two actual criminals. Two men who were convicted of their crimes. One of the criminals chose to use his last minutes to mock and insult Jesus. “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” Luke 23:39

The other criminal, in his pain, in his agony recognized who Jesus was. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.” Luke 23:41

It wasn’t too late. His sins weren’t too big. He cried out to Jesus and confessed the depth of his sin. He knew he was guilty, and he also knew Jesus was perfect and free from sin. He knew that Jesus was the only one who could truly forgive him from his sin. “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” Luke 23:42

A humble request that acknowledges Jesus’ identity and his power. The criminal knew that only Jesus could save him and forgive him completely. Jesus answers the request.

Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.” Luke 23:43

In his agony, Jesus shows grace and mercy for others. Even as he is suffering an incredibly painful death, Jesus shows compassion. He frees the man nailed to the cross. He forgives “even that”! This my friends, is our real,

solid evidence that Jesus really does forgive – no matter what the sin. If he can forgive that man, even while suffering on the cross, he can and will forgive us.

### **Jesus forgives even THAT.**

Friends, the hard truth is that my sin and your sin is just as personal to Jesus as were those awful accusations. Our sins are as painful to Him as the crown of thorns and the flogging. Our sin is just as offensive to Jesus as those who mocked him on the day of his death. Our sin hurts him just as much.

And I’m not only talking about that one regret from all those years ago; that thing you can’t forget and can name in an instant. I’m also talking about all of the sins you can’t name. The little white lie. The gossiping, the jealousy, the judgmental attitude. All of it. It’s all the same in His eyes. It’s personal, it’s offensive, it’s painful to our Lord. And He suffered and died for all of it.

“But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed.” Isaiah 53:5 (NLT)

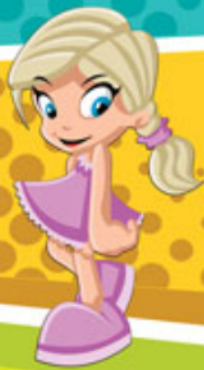
There’s a purpose for all of it. LOVE. Jesus loves us so deeply that He would suffer all of that and more so that we could be with Him for eternity. So that we could experience the kind of complete forgiveness that is available ONLY through Him. So that we could live in freedom from the guilt and punishment of our sin. The sacrifice has been given. Receive it, dear friends.

# APRIL IS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

## Autism

is characterized in many different ways and every individual presents differently.

AtlasForAutism.Org



### Autism "profiles"

are not permanent; growth and development occur even through adulthood!

### Autism Does Not

affect a person's ability to feel emotions but rather the way in which it may be expressed.



### Community Awareness & ACCEPTANCE

is key to bridging relationships with individuals and their families living with Autism and any other developmental differences.



### Stimming

(repetitive movements & vocalizations)

are important coping mechanisms and should not be taken away or considered taboo - if anything help shape the stims to fit the environment or give time before stressful or intense situations to give someone some reprieve! Believe it or not, you likely are a stimmer too!