



SAMPLE

Copyright information

© MMIV by Church Initiative. All rights reserved. Printed in the United States of America.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means—including electronic, mechanical, photocopy and recording—or by any information storage or retrieval system, without the written permission of the publisher.

For more information, contact  
Church Initiative  
250 S. Allen Rd.  
P.O. Box 1739  
Wake Forest, NC 27588-1739

Phone: 1-800-489-7778 (US and Canada); 919-562-2112 (Local and international)

Fax: 919-562-2114

Email: [info@churchinitiative.org](mailto:info@churchinitiative.org)

Web address: [www.churchinitiative.org](http://www.churchinitiative.org), [www.DC4K.org](http://www.DC4K.org)

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the Living Bible, copyright © 1971. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Wheaton, Illinois 60189. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations marked NKJV are taken from the New King James Version. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations marked NIV are taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®. NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved.

# Contents

Meet Jesus .....	vi
Meet the Kids Like Me Stars .....	viii
Meet Uncle Bill and the Kids .....	ix
Session 1: What's Happening to My Family? .....	1
Session 2: God Loves Children in All Kinds of Families .....	7
Session 3: Facing My Anger .....	15
Session 4: Journey from Anger to Sadness .....	21
Session 5: I Am Not Alone .....	29
Session 6: God's Plan for Me .....	37
Session 7: Developing New Relationships .....	43
Session 8: Developing Money Smarts .....	51
Session 9: It's Not My Fault .....	57
Session 10: Telling My Parents How I Feel .....	63
Session 11: Forgiveness .....	69
Session 12: Loving My Parents .....	75
Session 13: Moving On: Growing UP and Closer to God .....	81
Alphabet Stretches .....	87
Herby's Feelings Poster .....	101
Treasure Box .....	inside back cover

# Meet Jesus

*And develop a personal relationship with Him*

**Do you wonder why terrible things often happen around you?**

When bad things happen in your family, you may feel scared, sad or even angry. It seems so unfair! God knows how you feel and He understands. Even God is sad when terrible things happen.

**Does God know and care about you?**



Yes! The living God knows what is happening to your family, and He cares about what you think and how you feel. In the Bible, God says He loves you with a love that lasts forever (Jeremiah 31:3). It may seem like nobody understands what you are going through, but God does. You can trust God even when everything around you is going wrong.

**Why do so many bad things happen in the world?**

Why do moms and dads divorce? Why are there disasters like fires and floods? Bad things like these were not always there. When God created the world, He made it perfect. Why did things go wrong?

It started when the very first people chose to ignore God. Instead of obeying God, they did what they wanted to do. Disobeying God is called "sin" and the consequence of sin is separation from God. When sin came into the world, it ruined God's perfect creation. Bad things started happening, and people started doing things that hurt others. Even worse, everyone from that time on has been born sinful, even you.

In love, God made a way to save you from your sin by sending His perfect Son, Jesus Christ, to take the punishment you deserve for your sin by suffering and dying on the cross. God knew this was the only way your sin could be forgiven (Hebrews 9:22). The Bible says that Jesus died, He was buried and three days later God brought Him back to life (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). He is alive in heaven today.



God's plan in sending His Son shows how much He loves you! God wants to be your loving heavenly Father and comfort you during this difficult time. He can help you get through your parents' divorce.

## How can you become part of God's family?



The Bible tells us that anyone who receives Jesus, believing in His name, becomes God's child (John 1:12). To believe in Jesus is to trust completely that He died for you so you can be forgiven for your sins.

Will you believe in Jesus and become part of God's family right now?

## You can use words like these to tell God:

*Dear God, I believe that Jesus is Your Son, who died for me and rose again. I know I have sinned and I'm sorry. I want to receive Jesus as my Savior and become part of Your family. Thank you! In Jesus' name, Amen.*

If you just did this, write your name and today's date on the lines below to help you remember when you became part of God's family.

\_\_\_\_\_

Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

As your heavenly Father, God will help heal the hurt you are feeling now, and He will comfort you. You can talk to Him anytime about anything. That is what it means to pray.

## Does this mean that nothing bad will ever happen to you again?

No, bad things will always happen in our world. But God has promised He will never leave you (Hebrews 13:5). The Bible also says the Lord is your helper: You don't need to be afraid (Hebrews 13:6). God will help you get through anything.

## What's next?

Believing in Jesus is only the first step in an exciting relationship with God. You'll want to get to know Him better and learn His plan for your life.

A great way to do this is to join the CEF Mailbox Club™, a ministry of Child Evangelism Fellowship®. Use the enrollment card located in the back of this workbook to receive FREE Bible lessons in the mail. When you do a lesson and send in the question page, CEF will check it for you and send the next lesson in just a few days. After all the lessons are done, CEF will send you a FREE copy of *The Wonder Devotional Book*.

Adapted with permission from *Do You Wonder Why?* © 2002 Child Evangelism Fellowship Inc. All rights reserved.

# Meet the Kids Like Me Stars

Each week you will spend time watching a scene from the *Kids Like Me* drama. You'll discover that these are kids "just like you." Let's meet the characters:



Samantha, known as "Sam," lives with her mother in a trailer. Her parents are divorced.



D.J. lives with both parents. Her parents are not divorced.



Will's parents are separated, and he lives with his father. He hasn't seen his mother in three months. He keeps hoping his parents will reconcile.



LaKeesha is a kindergarten-age child whom Rachel babysits while LaKeesha's mother has to work.



Trey's parents are divorced, and he spends equal time with both parents. He lives in a nice apartment on the top floor.



Rachel is a teenager whose parents divorced when she was younger. She is in the drama club at school.



Jana and her younger brother, Jay, live with their aunt and uncle. Jana's mother is into drugs and ran off and left them.



Ryan is a teenager and is Rachel's friend. He is in the drama club at school. His parents are not divorced.



Jay, Jana's younger brother, is friends with Trey. He wants everybody to like him.



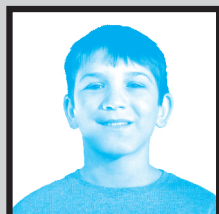
Breanna likes to be called Bree and is visiting her cousin D.J. for the summer.



Lynn lives with her mother in a blended family. She has a stepbrother, Caleb.



Uncle Scott is Jana and Jay's uncle. He owns the garage where all the kids come to hang out. He likes having Jana and Jay live with him.



Caleb is Lynn's stepbrother and lives with his father in a blended family. He doesn't like having Lynn live in his home.



Pastor Tim is the youth minister where Rachel and Ryan go to church. He visits the group and compliments them on their good idea of putting on a play.



# Meet Uncle Bill & the Kids

Join Uncle Bill and the kids as they discover exciting truths from the Bible that relate to their lives.



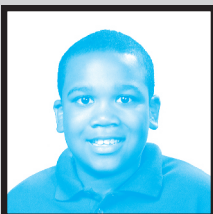
Uncle Bill owns an ice cream shop. He is Dustin and Amy's uncle, and he owns the apartment above the ice cream shop where Dustin, Amy and their mother live. All the families in the neighborhood like coming to eat ice cream at Uncle Bill's. Uncle Bill loves telling stories, especially stories from the Bible.



Dustin's parents are divorced. He lives with his mom and his little sister in an apartment above his uncle's ice cream shop. Dustin has lots of friends. He likes sports and is 9 years old. He misses his dad a lot. He doesn't understand why his parents got a divorce.



Amy is Dustin's little sister. She is 7 years old. Amy doesn't have very many friends, and she likes it that way. When she thinks about her parents' divorce, she gets very mad. She used to enjoy her life when her parents lived in the same house. She loves Uncle Bill and likes living above the ice cream shop.



Jamal's best friend in the whole world is Dustin. They have been friends since kindergarten. Jamal is 10 years old. His parents just separated, and the idea of a divorce is still new to him. He lives with his dad but gets to see his mom a lot. His dad is thinking about moving out of town, and this is upsetting to Jamal.

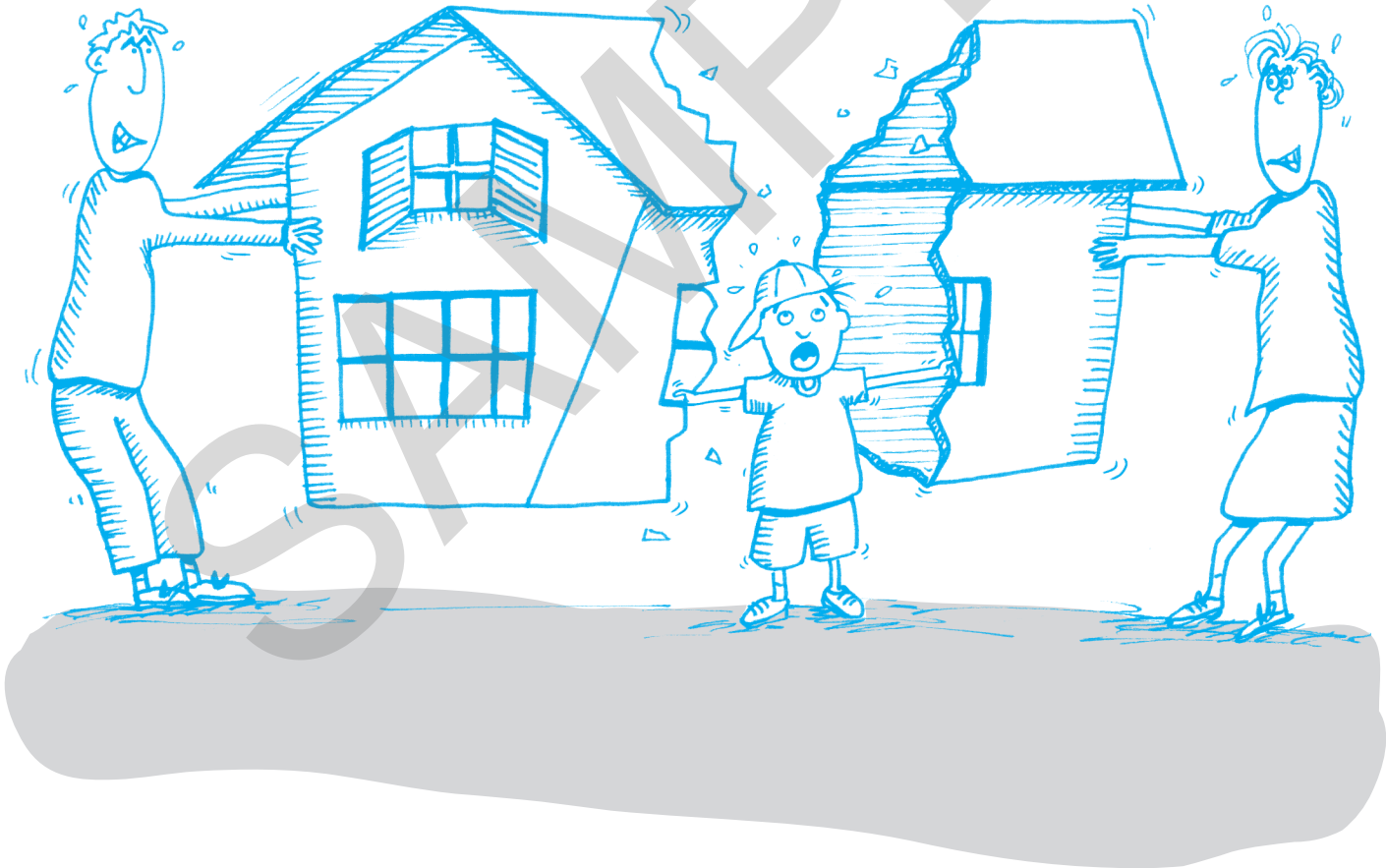


Taylor lives with her mom. Her parents have been divorced for a short time, and she really misses her dad. Taylor has a lot of friends and doesn't have a best friend. She likes to go to Amy's to visit with Uncle Bill and play with Amy.



# Session 1

# What's Happening to My Family?





# This Week's Goals

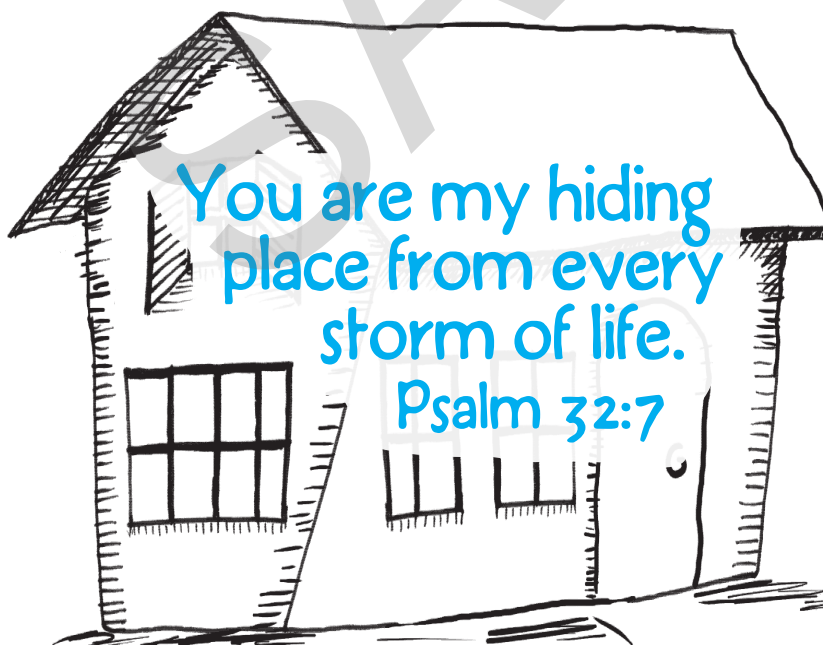
## What's Happening to My Family?

You may have heard the word divorce talked about, but you might not understand what it is. You may be worried about what's going to happen to you and your family. We want to help you understand these things and more. We want you to know you will be safe in this group, and you will meet other children here whose parents are separated or divorced. After the session, place an X next to all the statements below that are true for you.

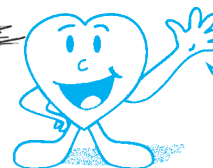
This week's session will help you to . . .

- know you are safe in this place.
- learn and understand what is going to happen each week at DC4K.
- get to know other kids in this group.
- have fun and connect with your new friends.
- become acquainted with what happens in divorced families like yours.
- start thinking about creating a new kind of family with both of your parents or whomever you live with.

What are your goals for this session?



GOD'S TREASURES  
FOR YOU



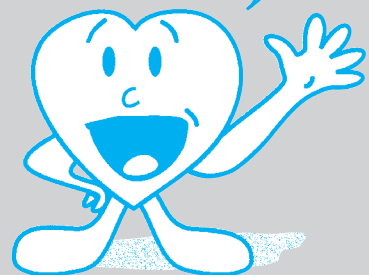
Welcome to DC4K!  
I'm Herby.

# Family Word Search

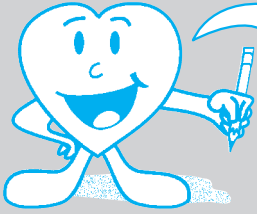
B I P G K Q D E N Q Q G G  
Y F G R A N D F A T H E R  
A B K A G Z C K M W J G B  
U R E N P T Z S E Y E W D  
B O P D A U J I B T S J K  
D T K M G S M S A K U Z E  
G H S O V S P T O K S J E  
V E A T B B R E R P G T K  
S R B H A T U R T B R S J  
D N E E W N Z D C J K Q P  
A Q S R A H Y O V S J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

BROTHER	ME
DAD	GRANDMOTHER
MOM	JESUS
GRANDFATHER	SISTER

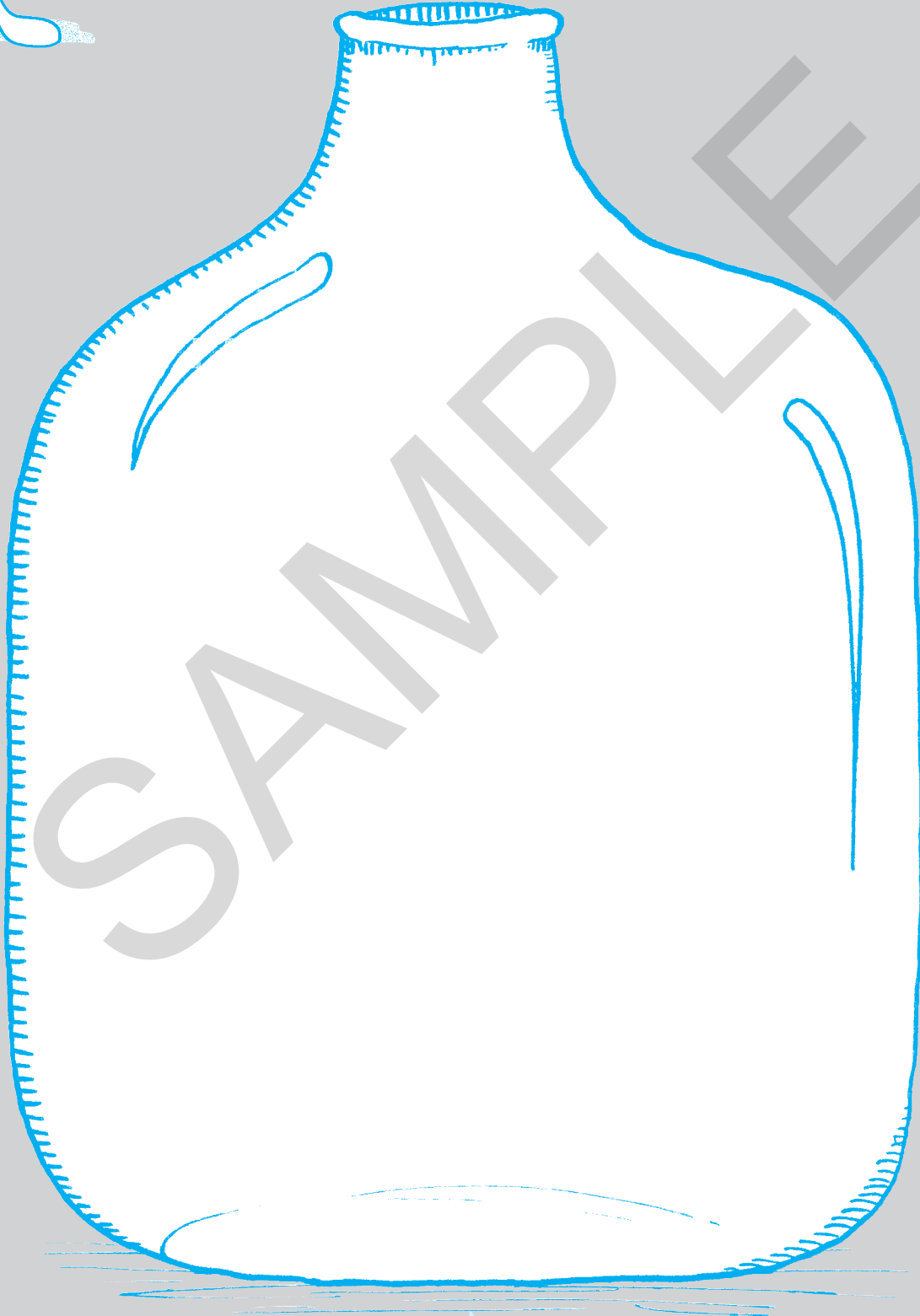
Please  
Stop!



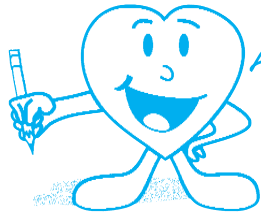
# Storm in a Bottle



Draw a picture of houses, people and other things in a storm. Label the storm with one word that best describes the problems in your life.

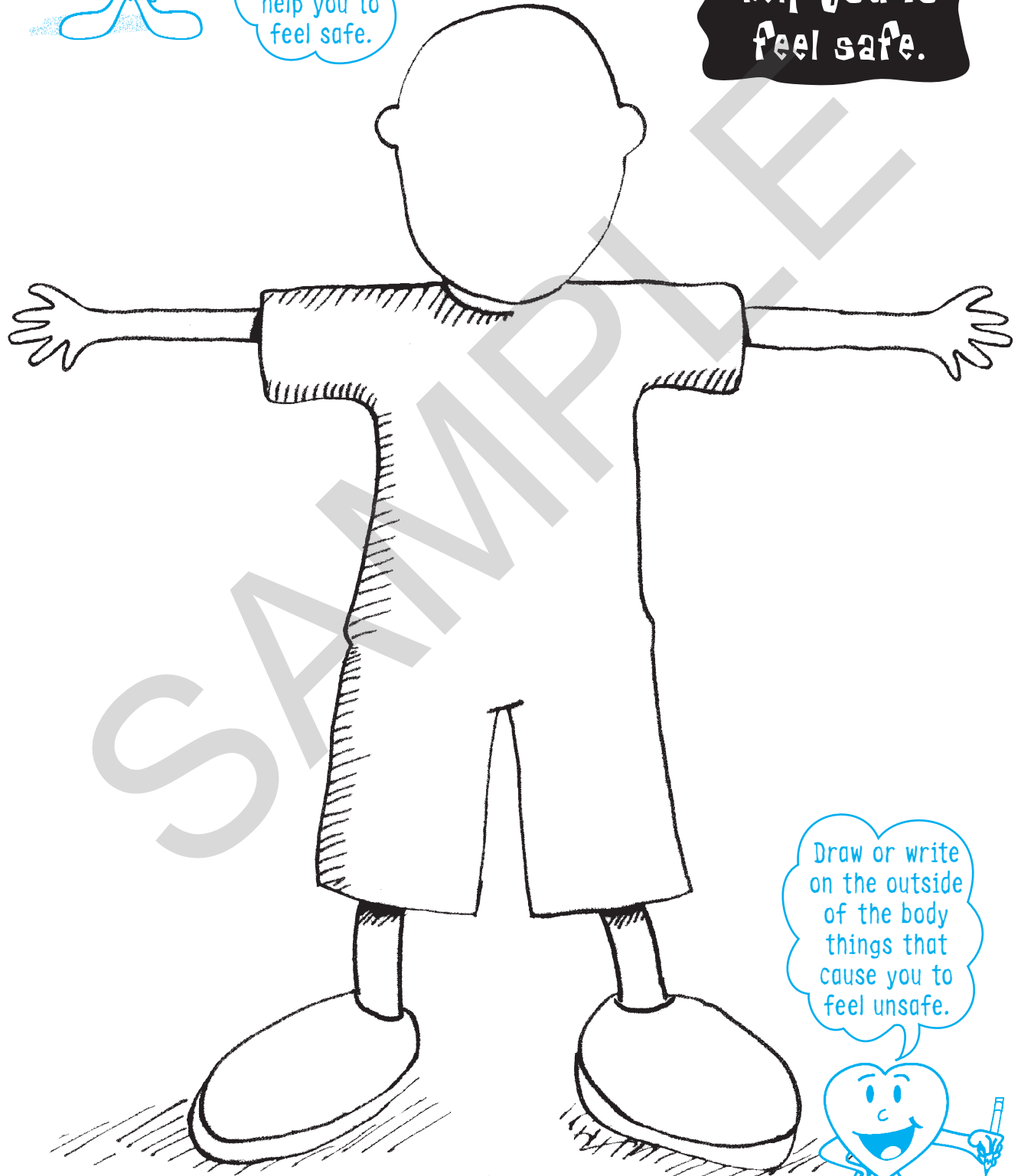


# The Journaling Page

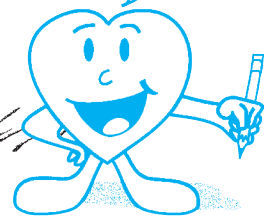


Draw or write on the inside of the body things that help you to feel safe.

Some things help you to feel safe.

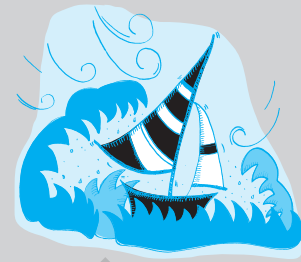


Draw or write on the outside of the body things that cause you to feel unsafe.



## Session 1 Bible Story

# Jesus Calms the Storm



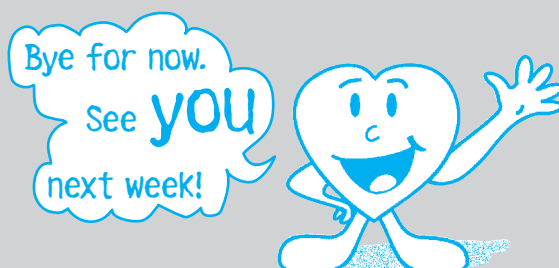
Mark 4:35-41

One day, after speaking to huge crowds of people, Jesus and His disciples needed a rest. They got into a sailboat and headed for the other side of the Sea of Galilee. While they were crossing the smooth waters, Jesus lay down in the back of the boat and took a nap. He fell into a deep sleep.

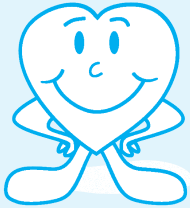
Suddenly, a storm began to blow. The little sailboat was tossed back and forth. The wind blew harder and harder until the waves were crashing against the boat. The disciples were very frightened. They went to Jesus and found Him asleep. The disciples shook Jesus awake. They were so afraid; they didn't know what to do. They thought their boat was going to sink and they'd drown.

The disciples called on the Lord for help. "Lord!" they cried. "Please save us!" Jesus woke up and looked around at the storm. Then Jesus spoke to the storm. "Be still!" He shouted. Immediately, the winds died down, and the sea became calm again. The disciples were amazed.

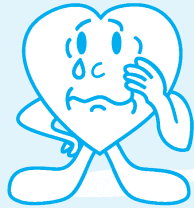
Even though everything seemed out of control to the disciples, Jesus was still in control. You can trust Jesus when your life seems out of control. He will help you through this difficult time. God will protect you from every storm of life—even the storms children feel when their parents divorce.



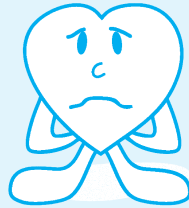
# Herby's Feelings



Happy



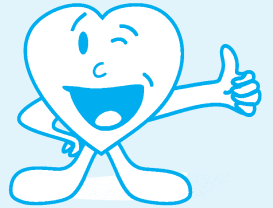
Sad



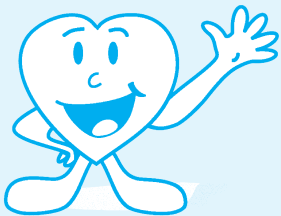
Lonely



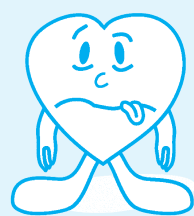
Bored



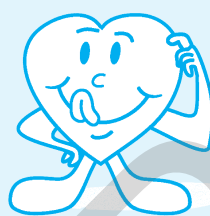
Confident



Joyful



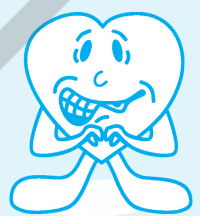
Discouraged



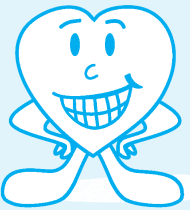
Thoughtful



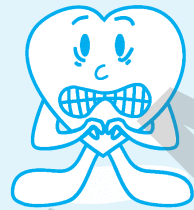
Guilty



Ashamed



Proud



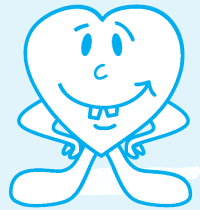
Scared



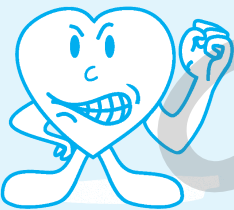
Shy



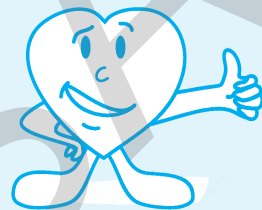
Loved



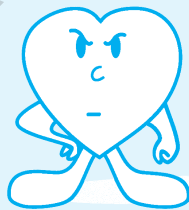
Silly



Angry



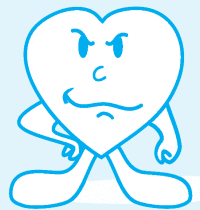
Cool



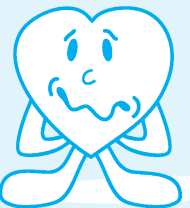
Frustrated



Surprised



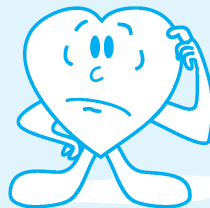
Jealous



Overwhelmed



Hurt



Confused



Peaceful



Excited