

Adrian's Swimming Coach

Key Word: **Prophet**

Key Verse: "This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am ending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'" *Matthew 11:10*

Adrian learned to swim when he was a baby, and he loved it. When he was seven he joined a swim club, and he met Mr. Stevens, the coach.

Adrian got along well with Mr. Stevens. He taught Adrian the best way of making his strokes and Adrian began to win. Mr. Stevens was strict, but fair. He made all the kids work really hard. Some of them complained, but Mr. Stevens always worked harder than any of them.

Mr. Stevens was just the sort of person Adrian wanted to be when he grew up. He was dedicated to his work, kind, understanding, and gentle. He cared about all the children.

One day something went wrong. Mr. Stevens wasn't there anymore. Adrian heard on the local news that Mr. Stevens had been arrested! One of the girls from the swimming club had accused him of hitting her.

Adrian couldn't believe Mr. Stevens would ever do anything like that. At swim club the other children were talking about Mr. Stevens rather nastily. Adrian began to wonder whether they were right. He felt very confused. He had been so certain Mr. Stevens was a really good person.

When he got home, he talked to his parents about the problem. "How was Mr. Stevens with you?" asked his father.

"He was great!" Adrian said.

"And with other children?" asked his dad. Adrian nodded. "With everybody," he said firmly. "He was always the same with everyone, and he was awesome!"

"Then you must decide by what you've seen and heard," said Adrian's father. "You know in your heart whether he was a good or a bad person. You must stick with what you know."

A day or two later, Mr. Stevens was released without charge. The girl who had accused him had been angry because she hadn't been chosen to be on the swimming team. She'd thought this would be an easy way to get at Mr. Stevens. But it became very clear that he was completely innocent.

Adrian was delighted. He felt a little ashamed that he had ever doubted Mr. Stevens at all, but he knew he would never doubt him again.

Questions

Why was Adrian confused about his feelings for Mr. Stevens?

What did Jesus ask John's messengers to tell John?

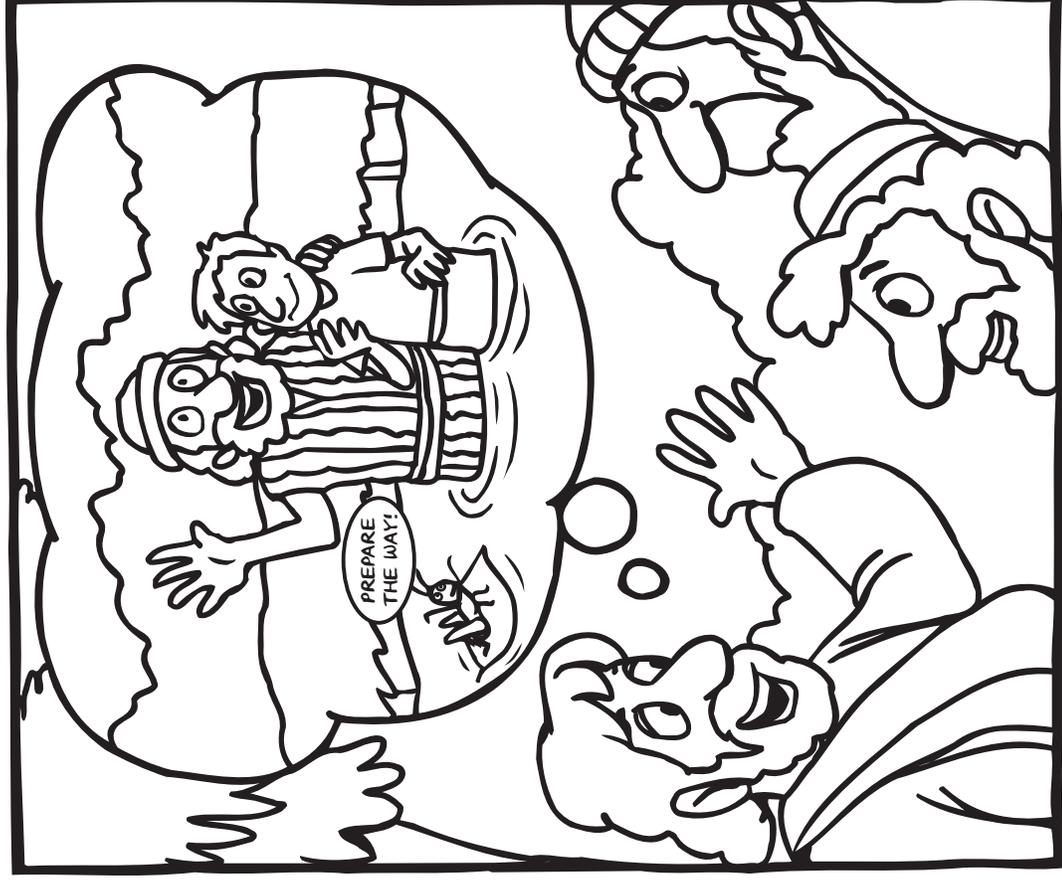
- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| Across | Down |
| 3. Prison | 1. Blind |
| 5. Dead | 2. Prophet |
| 6. Jesus | 3. Palaces |
| 7. Lepers | 4. Messenger |
| 8. Hear | |
| 9. Disciples | |

Crossword Puzzle

Answers

Letter Tile Puzzle

And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.



Gospel Grams

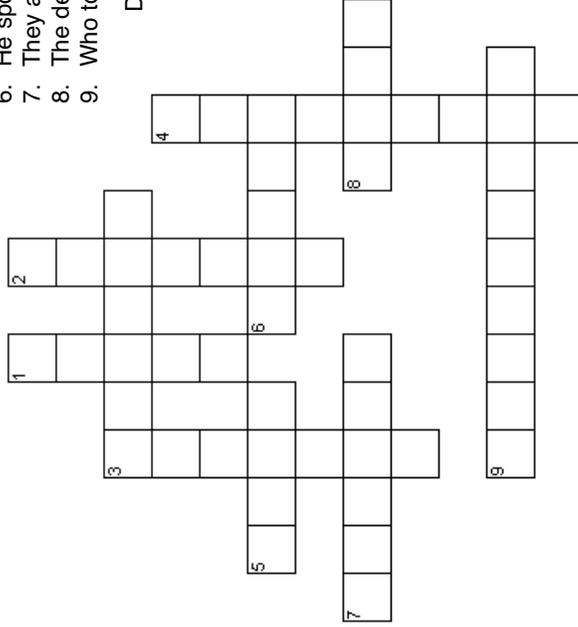
Today's Gospel Story
is from
Matthew 11:2-11

Crossword Puzzle

Complete this crossword puzzle using the clues from today's Gospel story. Read the clues. Then fill in the squares below with the answers to the questions.

Across

3. Where was John when he heard?
5. They are raised?
6. He spoke to the crowds
7. They are cleansed
8. The deaf will do this
9. Who took the word to John?

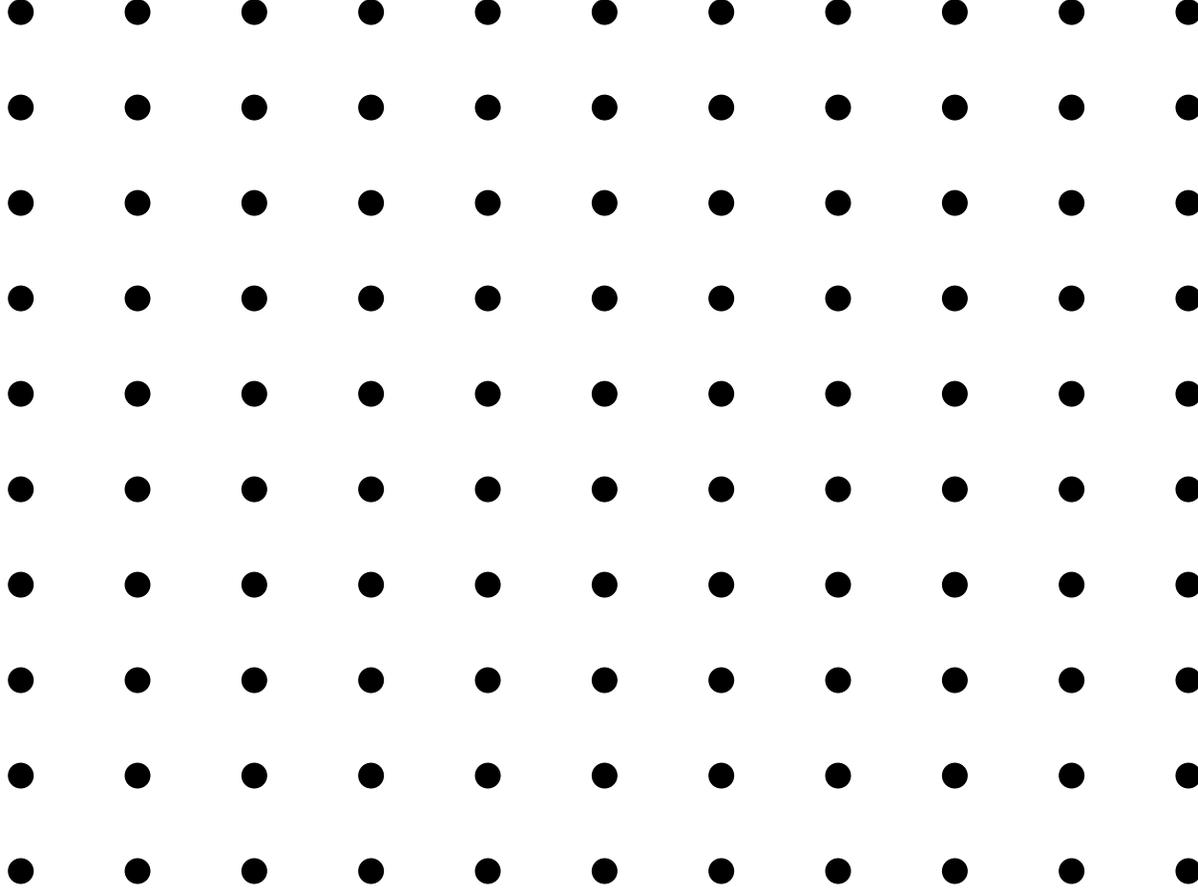


Down

1. They will receive their sight
2. What did they go out to see?
3. Where are those who wear soft robes?
4. Who is coming ahead?

Square O Dots

Play this fun game with a friend. Each of you takes turns connecting two dots together. When your line completes a square, you win that square. When you win a square, either write your initial in it or color it your color. Then you get another turn! The one with the most squares wins!



Letter Tile Puzzle

Unscramble the tiles to reveal a message from today's Gospel story. Each tile has the same number of characters (letters, spaces, and punctuation). Spaces are shown as blanks on the letter tiles.

WH	BL	FFE	NSE	IS	O T	ANY	AT	O O	ESS
ED	ONE	AKE	ME	AND	S N				

