

# Oh, Bobby!

Key Word: Love

Key Verse: "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." *John 13:34*

From a very young age, Bobby knew he was a problem. He couldn't help getting into trouble, and his parents would sigh and say, "Oh, Bobby!"

But he knew he was really bad when he overheard his parents talking about "middle child syndrome." Bobby was the middle child, and he knew from Sunday school that sin was bad, even though he didn't really know what "drome" meant.

For a while, Bobby felt miserable knowing that he was such an awful person. Then he decided to start acting as bad as could be.

His best idea came when he stumbled across a large container of superglue in his dad's garage. He slipped the glue quietly into his school bag, and set off for school. "Open your desks," said the teacher.

The children pulled and heaved, but not a single desk would open.

Bobby felt very pleased with himself—until his father discovered that his bottle of superglue was nearly empty.

"Bobby, did you glue those desk lids down?" asked his father.

"Yes," muttered Bobby.

His father sighed. "Oh, Bobby! One day, you'll really hurt someone. I don't want that to happen to you."

Bobby shouted, "You don't love me! No-one loves me!"

His parents stared. Then his mother hugged him and said, "We love you very

much, Bobby, but you're always too busy trying to be bad to notice."

"You must go to the principal tomorrow and apologize," added Bobby's father.

In the principal's office, Bobby's dad kept a protective arm around his son's shoulders, and Bobby's mom continued to hold his hand.

To Bobby's amazement, his dad spoke up for him. Bobby couldn't believe his ears. His dad thought he was good, deep down inside.

"What about middle child sin-drome?" he blurted out. "How can you love me when I have all that sin inside me? I'm just bad because of my sin-drome."

All the grown-ups began to laugh, and Bobby's dad explained that it meant that middle children sometimes feel unloved, even though they're not.

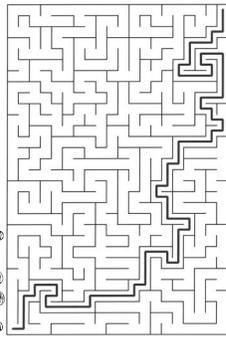
"From now on," he said, "we'll talk about middle child lovedrome, because we love you so much."

And Bobby suddenly realized that was true.

## Questions

**In the story, why did Bobby think that nobody loved him?**

**How did he discover that his mom and dad loved him very much?**



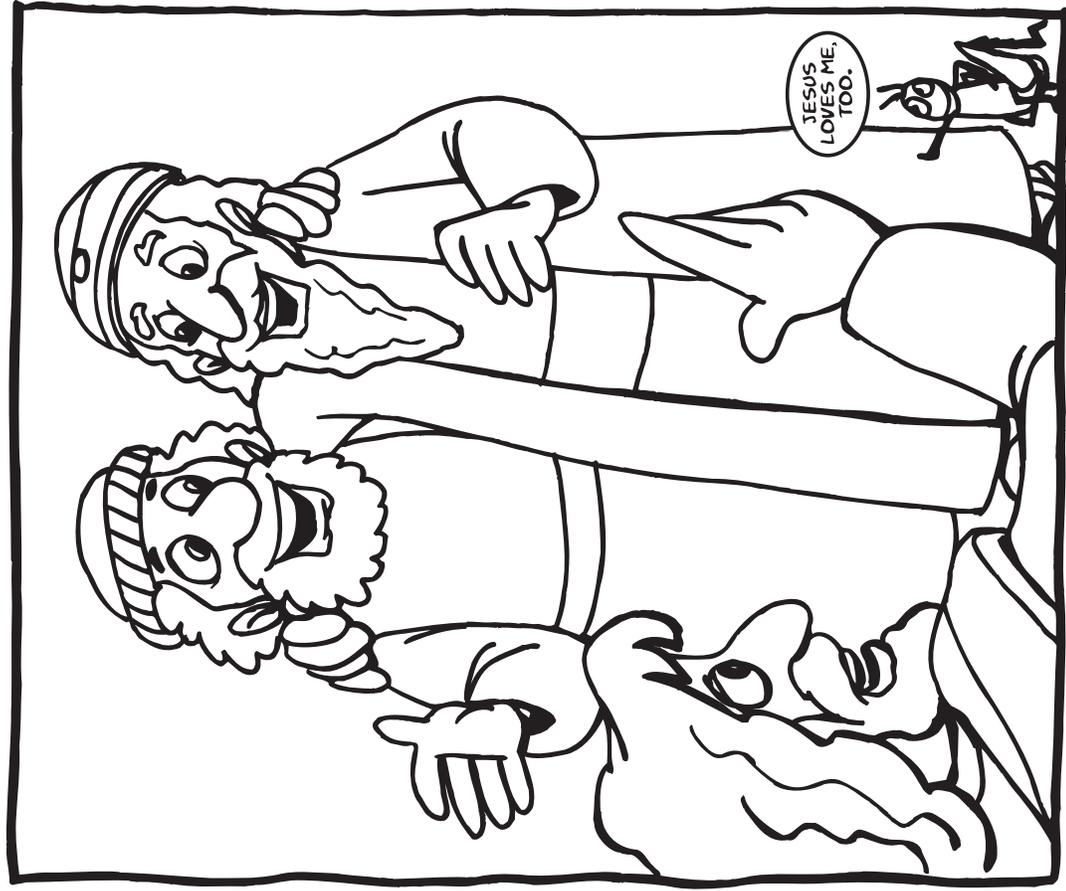
MAZE

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

WORD FIND

WORD JUMBLE

Little	Know
Glory	Disciples
Jesus	Children
Going	Longer
Loved	Another
Love One	Another



# Gospel Grams



Today's Gospel Story  
 is from  
**John 13:31-35**

