

'A Happy Life'



This material is suitable for ages 5 - 7.

Theme:

God's love gives us a full and happy life.

Bible focus:

John 4:3 -30

Preparation:

A Bible, one tablespoon of baking soda, 1/3 cup of vinegar, a glass.

Lesson:

Place the glass so all the children can see it. In your own words, tell the story of Jesus and the woman at the well (John 4: 3 - 30). Then pour the baking soda into the glass.

Life without God's love is like this soda in the glass – nothing very special. It's a bit like the woman in the story we just heard before she met Jesus. Her life wasn't very good, or anything wonderful.

But after she met Jesus (pour the vinegar into the glass as you speak – there should be a bubbling reaction) her life became very exciting and had meaning. She was bubbling over with happiness.

When we ask Jesus to be our Friend and be part of our life, He fills us with happiness and it's very exciting.

Jesus wants us to be our Friend and make our lives exciting and happy. We need to ask Jesus to be our Friend. Some of you may already have done that – asked Jesus to be your Friend. That's great. Jesus is the best Friend we can every have. You might like to say to Jesus how glad you are that He's your friend. You can do that all the time but you might like to do that in a special way in a moment.

Some children may want to ask Jesus to be their Friend today. You can do that in a moment when we pray. Some children may have some questions about being Jesus' friend. You can talk with a leader.

Some may not be ready just yet to do this and that's OK too.

(If possible, ask at least 3 leaders – one for each response – to be ready to speak with children according to these responses. Invite the children to move to the leader who represents the response they wish to make. For the 'not ready' children, direct them to another activity).

Allow the children a few seconds to think about their response then invite them all to move at once to the person they wish to speak with, or the 'not ready' activity.

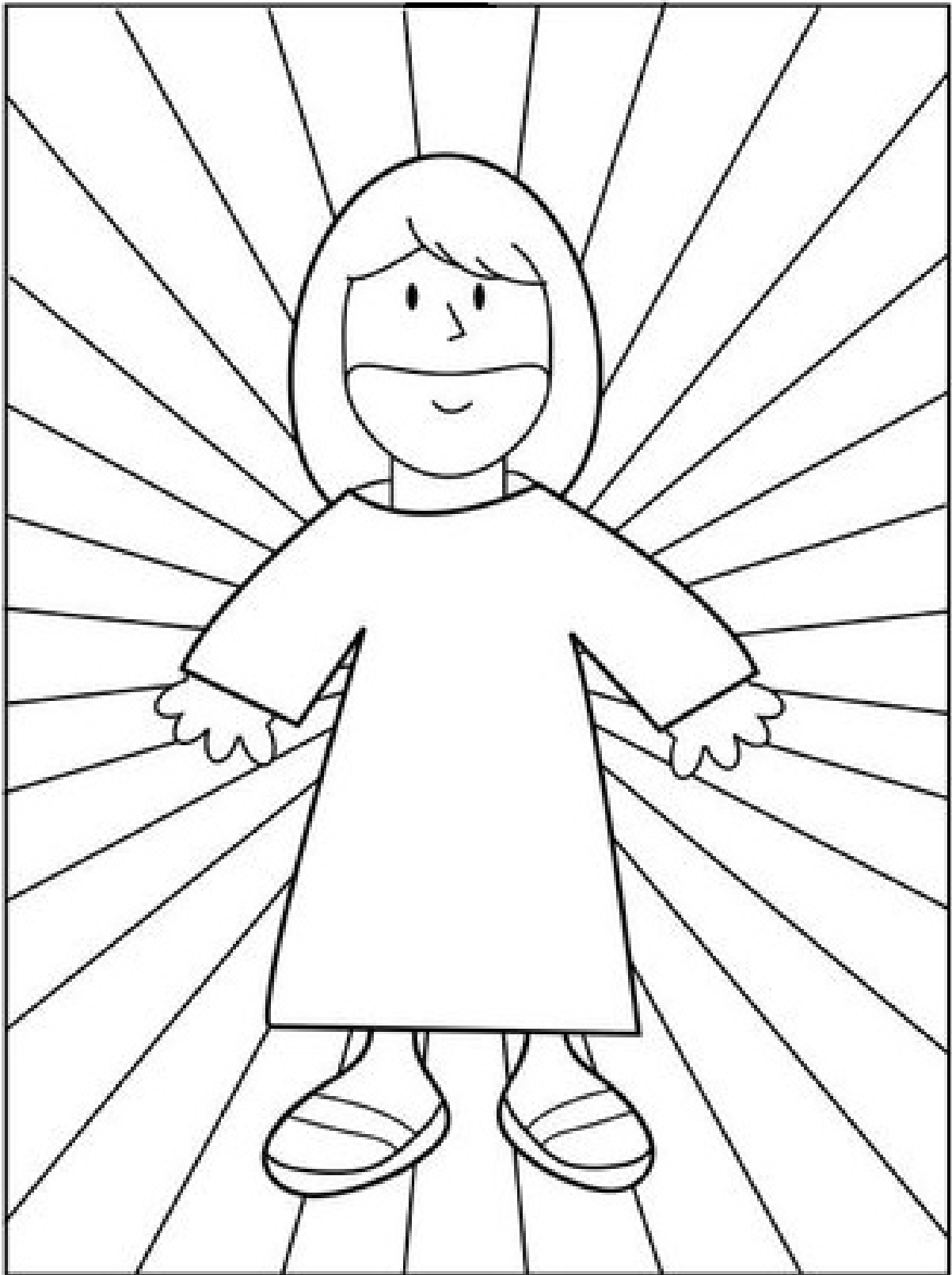
Follow up:

Ensure you follow up any children who indicate they said this prayer with you for the first time. For this age group Scripture Union produces Bible reading notes called 'Find Out' which are helpful in encouraging children to read their Bible regularly. These are available through SU's Resources For Ministry department ph. 02 4337 0200 or Koorong Books.

Linking children in to other sections in the corps e.g. Sunday School, SAGALA, Kids Club or Junior Soldiers, will also help with their ongoing spiritual development



JESUS IS MY FRIEND



Today I asked Jesus
to be my best friend



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to be my best friend



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to be my best friend



Today I asked Jesus
to be my best friend

