

Strengthened by Jesus

Bible Story • Paul Obeys in Jerusalem • Acts 21:8–22:29

God's Word

"I can do everything through him
who gives me strength."
Philippians 4:13

For Younger Children:
"Jesus gives me strength."

God's Word & Me

Jesus gives me strength so that
I can continue telling about Him.

Missions Focus

Why might a missionary need strength
to tell about Jesus?

In what ways do you think Jesus gives
strength to missionaries?

What are ways we can help strengthen
missionaries on their journeys to
tell others about Jesus?

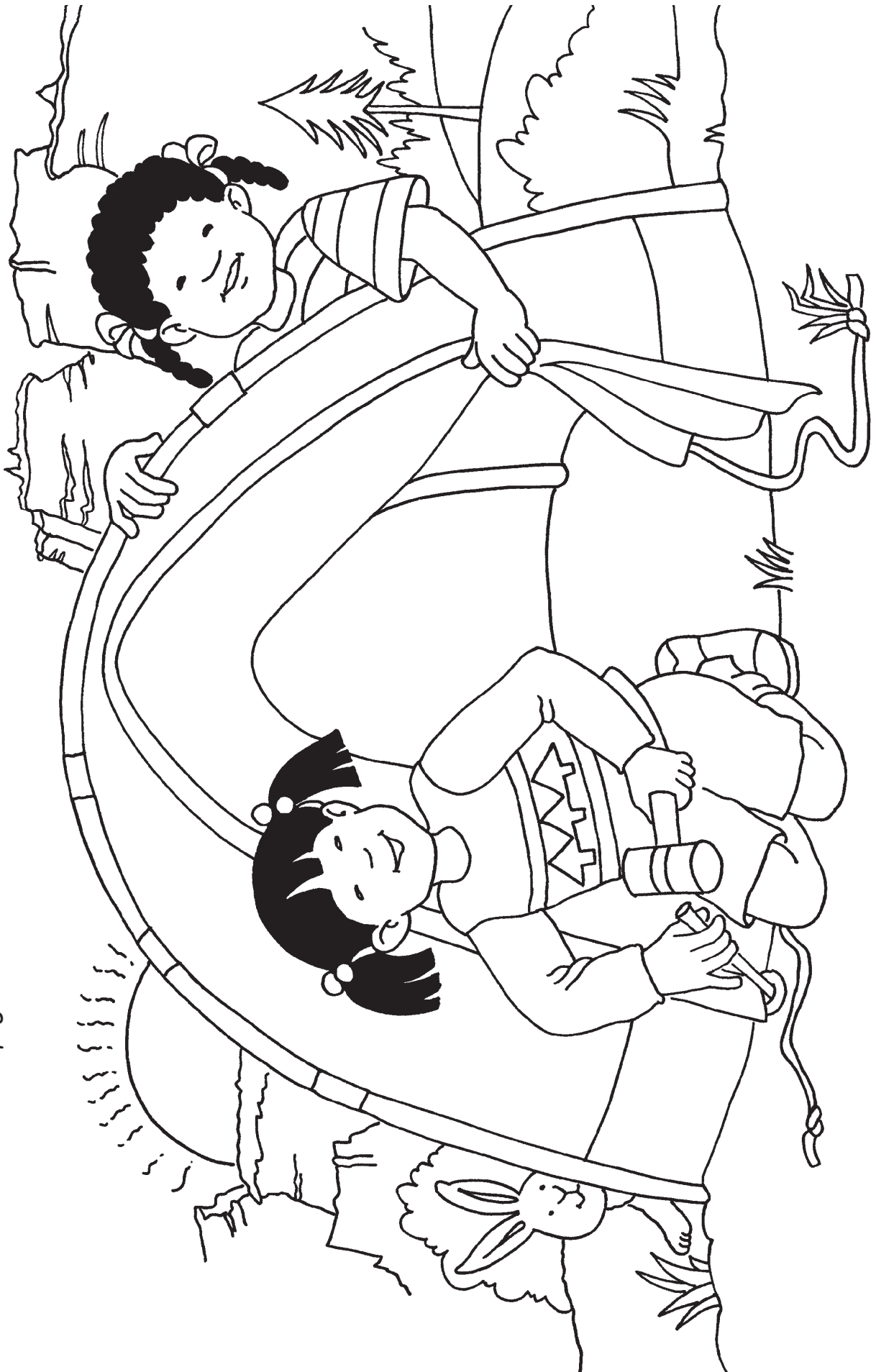
Teacher's Devotional

Exhausted, drained, burned-out: These feelings can be a result of our busy lives. Sometimes we use these feelings as an excuse not to tell others the good news of Jesus. When our self-focus discourages us, we need to remember that we live in a culture where we can openly and freely tell others about our Lord Jesus Christ. There is no punishment for it. There's not much persecution here! In some countries, simply saying that you believe in Jesus means death. There are dozens of stories of modern-day Christian martyrs who die in the name of Christ. They run underground churches and smuggle in Bibles—now *that* might truly be exhausting and draining! But Jesus gives them strength to continue telling others about His love—because they are willing and focused on Him: His joy becomes their strength!

Paul is an example to those Christians. When Paul was told by a prophet and some of his friends of the danger that lay ahead, they urged him not to go. However, Paul was given strength by Jesus to continue telling the good news, even if there *was* danger. In Acts 21:13 Paul says, "Why are you weeping and breaking my heart? I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." Now that's focusing on Christ!

Here in our society, we may not have to fear death for belief in Jesus. But sometimes, just the perception of persecution can deter us from sharing the good news of Jesus. Yet Paul tells us in Philippians 4:13 that we can do everything through Him who gives us strength! Let's keep that close to our hearts for the next time we focus on ourselves instead of on Jesus. This promise will keep us from feeling exhausted, drained or burned-out!

“Jesus gives me strength.” (See Philippians 4:13.)
Ask Jesus to help you tell about His love.



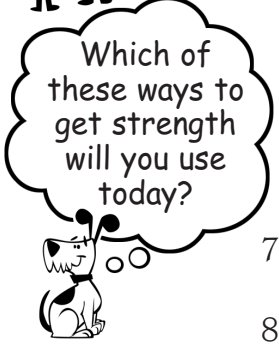
Climb the Wall!

It takes a lot of strength to climb a wall like this! Unscramble the words and then decide which ways will help you become stronger. Draw straight lines between those ways (like ropes!) to get to the top! Then use the circled letters in order to complete Philippians 4:13.



Unscramble here:

1. E _ _ _ C ○ ○ D _ _
2. R ○ _ _ _ IB _ _ ○
3. P _ _ A ○ B _ _ _
4. _ _ ○ _ _ y
5. AR ○ U _ _
6. _ _ R _ _ T _ _ ○ D



7. _ _ AT _ _ _ _ ○
8. _ _ B ○ Y _ _ _ _
9. ○ H _ _ R ○
10. _ _ EL _ _ o ○ ○ _ _ RS