

CATECHESIS@HOME #26

"COME TO THE WEDDING BANQUET"

(28th Sunday of Ordinary Time)

Prepared by Archdiocesan Catechetical Centre,
Archdiocese of Kuala Lumpur



INTRODUCTION

This material has been prepared for families to gather, and spend time reflecting and discussing about the gospel reading of the 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time. A number of activities are also related to Psalm 23.

HOW TO USE THE MATERIAL

This document contains activities that members of the family may complete individually (just the children), in pairs (with parental assistance), or as an entire family. It would be helpful to print a hard-copy, so that members of your family may carry out different activities at the same time.

WHEN TO USE THE MATERIAL

During the week after the family has celebrated the Mass of the 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time.

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we have gathered here in the name of Jesus. Help us learn to always be ready to answer your call to do Your will, and not to give excuses. Teach us to be obedient to You at all times. May Your Holy Spirit guide us during this lesson. We make this prayer in Jesus' name, Amen.



SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Invite someone to read from Matthew 22: 1-14.

(Then, read the commentary and reflect on the questions together as a family, by sharing your responses with one another. If necessary, parents are encouraged to rephrase the questions according to their children's level of understanding).

COMMENTARY:

This parable tells a very strange story: all those who received the invitation to the king's banquet not only refused to attend but treated the messengers very badly. The king was not to be stopped: he sent his servants to the crossroads and they gathered 'all they could find, good and bad alike'. The hall was full. God's invitation to partake in his great banquet is not restricted to the Jews, his kingdom is now open to all, without any distinction, even to those who seem unworthy.

The parable of the wedding in today's gospel was spoken when Jesus saw that his own people were moving to reject him. The story is symbolic. But the invitation to us is a real one. The invitation to the kingdom of heaven is cast wide, yet we are free to say yes or no. May we respond as best we can to this invitation.

Source: <https://www.sacredspace.ie/scripture/matthew-221-14>

1. Daily, we are being invited by Jesus to recognise him as the Lord and Master of our lives. It means listening to his voice and being obedient to him at every moment. As I approach the end of this year, how have I been responding to His invitations?
2. What are the usual excuses I give, when I respond negatively to His invitations? What would responding positively in these areas look like?
3. The Pharisees and scribes felt they had the right to a place in the kingdom, because they thought they kept the law. They also looked down on those whom they felt were sinners. Have I ever felt that I have a right to a place in the kingdom, more so than others? Have I looked down on others whom I believe have sinned? How has my perspective changed after reading this parable?

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

Below you will find some activities for younger children, revolving around the Sunday Gospel and Psalm 23. Select the activities you would like to complete with your children, or try to complete them all if you can!

GUIDE FOR PARENTS & GUARDIANS

Dear Parents and Guardians, we have included some tips for you as you facilitate these activities with your children. Each tip corresponds with the same numbered activity. Our hope is that these tips would help you in your endeavour to create a good learning experience for your children.

Activities #1 – #4, #6, #8

- Word-Find, crossword and coded activities help children to learn about, and associate certain words with key events in the Gospel.
- After your child has completed this activity, you may invite them to explore how these words are related to the readings of this week.
- When discussing definitions of key terms, you are encouraged to associate these terms not only with Gospel events, but with their own life experiences as well. This not only works to develop their vocabulary, but to also enable them to identify their feelings and emotions in specific ways.

Activity #5 & #9

- Many lessons could be taken from this activity. For example, this activity could spark a conversation about what it means to respond to God's invitation, and how He accepts and loves everyone, not just a particular people. This is a great conversation starter to encourage our children to share their thoughts and feelings with us – about their experiences with choosing what is good in their lives.
- Activity #9 deals with Psalm 23, and may spark a conversation about Jesus, who assumes the role (amongst many others) of Shepherd, guide and provider in our lives. This is a great opportunity to discuss our children's experiences of Jesus in these roles, and how they can *encounter* Him through these roles.
- You are encouraged to look beyond the activity, and to identify potential messages and meanings that could be turned into key learning moments for your child.

Activity #7

- Colouring activities help children reinforce knowledge by giving content a *visual identity*. Children are encouraged through these activities to associate what they have learned with key scenes, and the emotions and feelings that spring from it. In this way, children take ownership of their knowledge.
- This week's activity deals with the parable of the wedding, and how all are invited to God's kingdom. Not just the seemingly righteous people, but also the sinners.
- Parents and guardians are encouraged to look beyond the activity, and to identify potential messages and meanings that could be turned into key learning moments for your child.

Activity #10

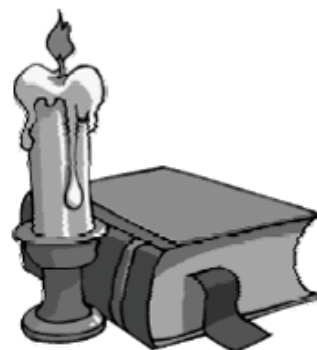
- For this activity, you are encouraged to work together with your children to complete the task. This activity has great potential of being a good team-building activity, where children may be appreciated for their hard work and effort!
- When our children see that we treasure their crafts, a message is communicated to them that we value their efforts. In this exchange, there is a giving of a gift out of hard work and love, and an acceptance of this love. This activity hopes to facilitate such an exchange. Let us be mindful and intentional during these moments with our children.

Activity #1: Find the words

The Wedding Banquet

So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, both good and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests. Matthew 22:10

Based on Matthew 22:1-14 (NIV)



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

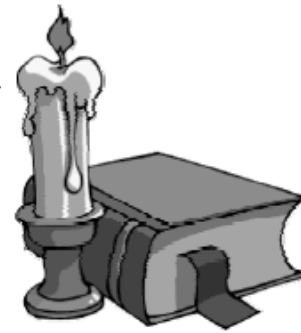
PARABLES	STREET	INVITED	BANQUET
GUESTS	HEAVEN	KINGDOM	CORNERS
SERVANTS	CATTLE	COME	OXEN
FILLED	REFUSED	WEDDING	DINNER

Activity #2: Break the Code

The Wedding Banquet

So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, both good and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests. Matthew 22:10

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.




1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
P	R	V	G	K	W	S	T	L	X	Q	E	A	D	H	F	B	N	C	O	U	I	J	Y	M	Z

- 4-21-12-7-8-7 _____
- 22-18-3-22-8-12-14 _____
- 14-22-18-18-12-2 _____
- 1-13-2-13-17-9-12 _____
- 6-12-14-14-22-18-4 _____
- 7-12-2-3-13-18-8-7 _____
- 17-13-18-11-21-12-8 _____
- 2-12-16-21-7-12-14 _____

INVITED	WEDDING	BANQUET	DINNER
SERVANTS	GUESTS	PARABLE	REFUSED

Activity #3: Find the words

D	E	S	I	L	E	N	T	E	D	KING	FEAST	WEDDING
G	A	R	M	E	N	T	E	O	E	BANQUET	OXEN	BUSINESS
N	S	S	E	N	I	S	U	B	T	FURIOUS	UNWORTHY	GARMENT
I	B	S	T	E	R	N	Q	R	I	SILENT	FEW	CHOSEN
D	I	W	U	X	W	E	N	E	V			
D	N	E	S	O	H	C	A	A	N			
E	D	F	R	S	I	G	B	D	I			
W	T	T	S	E	U	R	N	E	Y			
A	H	E	A	V	E	N	U	I	L			
Y	N	A	M	T	S	A	E	F	K			

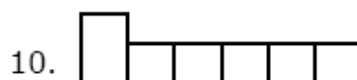
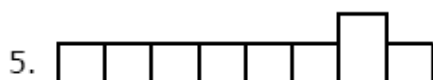
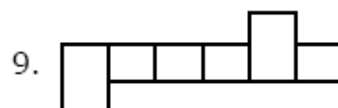
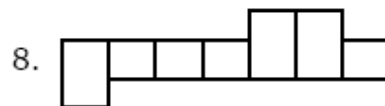
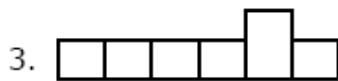
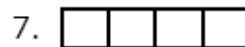
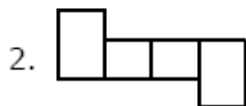
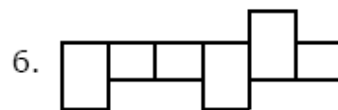
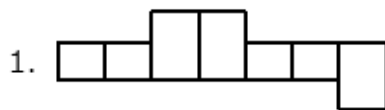
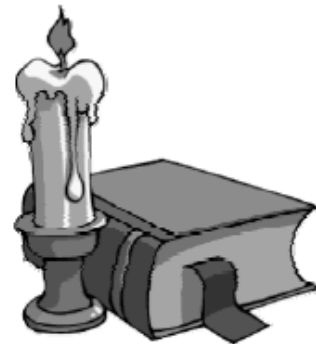


Activity #4: Enter the correct words

The Wedding Banquet

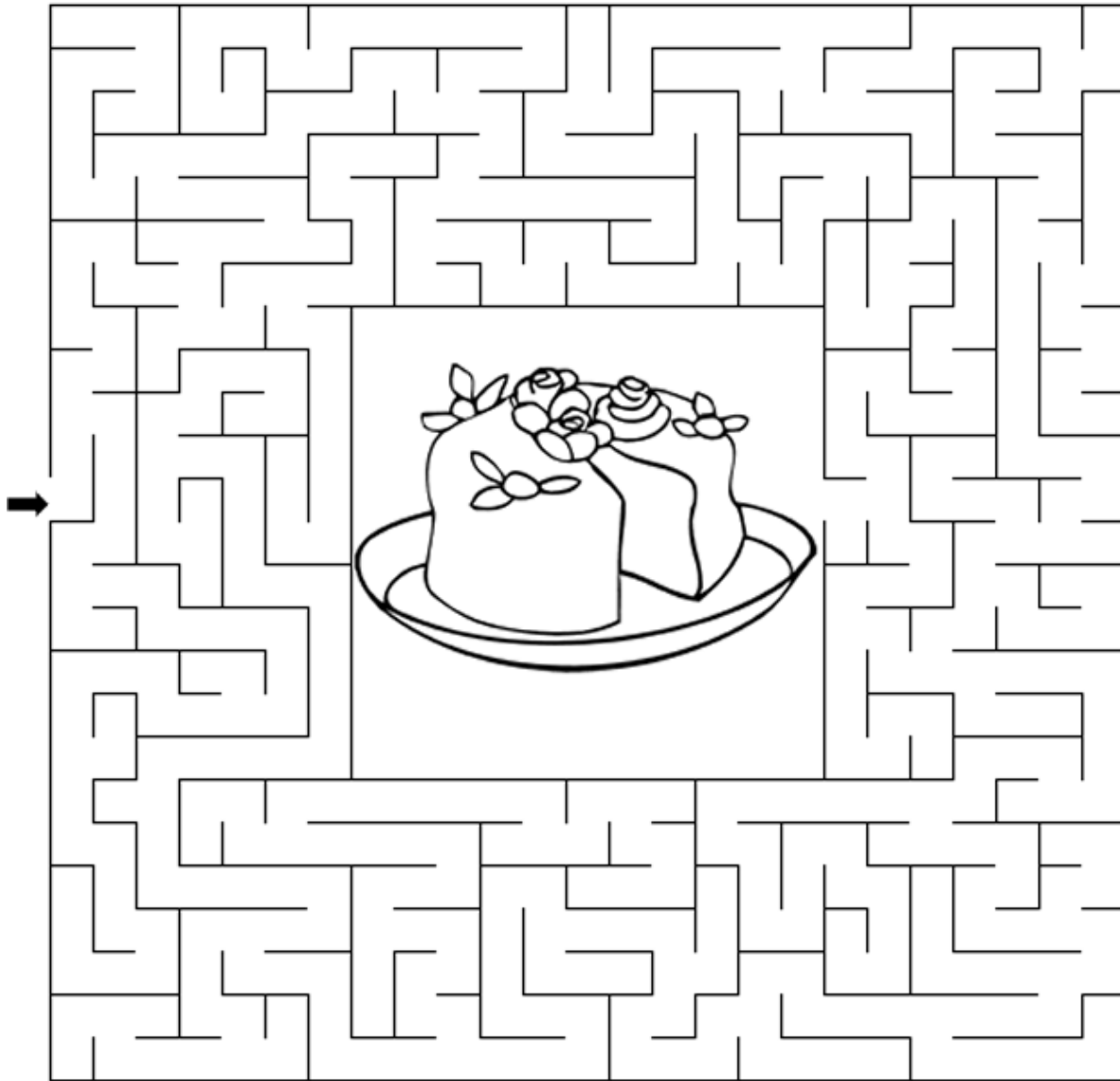
So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, both good and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests. Matthew 22:10

Enter the correct words in the boxes based on the shape of the letters.



people	servants	invite	king	guests
parable	dinner	wedding	come	streets

Activity #5: The Lord invites you to the wedding banquet. Find your way there!



Activity #6: Find the words

PARABLE OF THE WEDDING BANQUET

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

ANYONE	BANQUET	BIBLE	EVERYONE
FOOD	GOD	INVITATION	INVITED
JESUS	KING	KINGDOM	MATTHEW
PARABLE	REFUSE	REJECT	RELIGIOUS
SALVATION	SERVANTS	WEDDING	

Activity #7: Colour the picture

The Great Banquet

Jesus Talks about God's Kingdom

The kingdom of heaven is like what happened when a king gave a wedding banquet for his son.

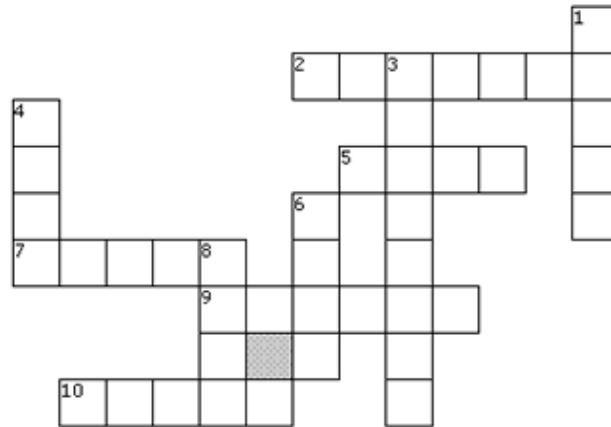
Matthew 22:2.



Activity #8: Solve the puzzle

The Lord Is My Shepherd

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. Psalm 23:1



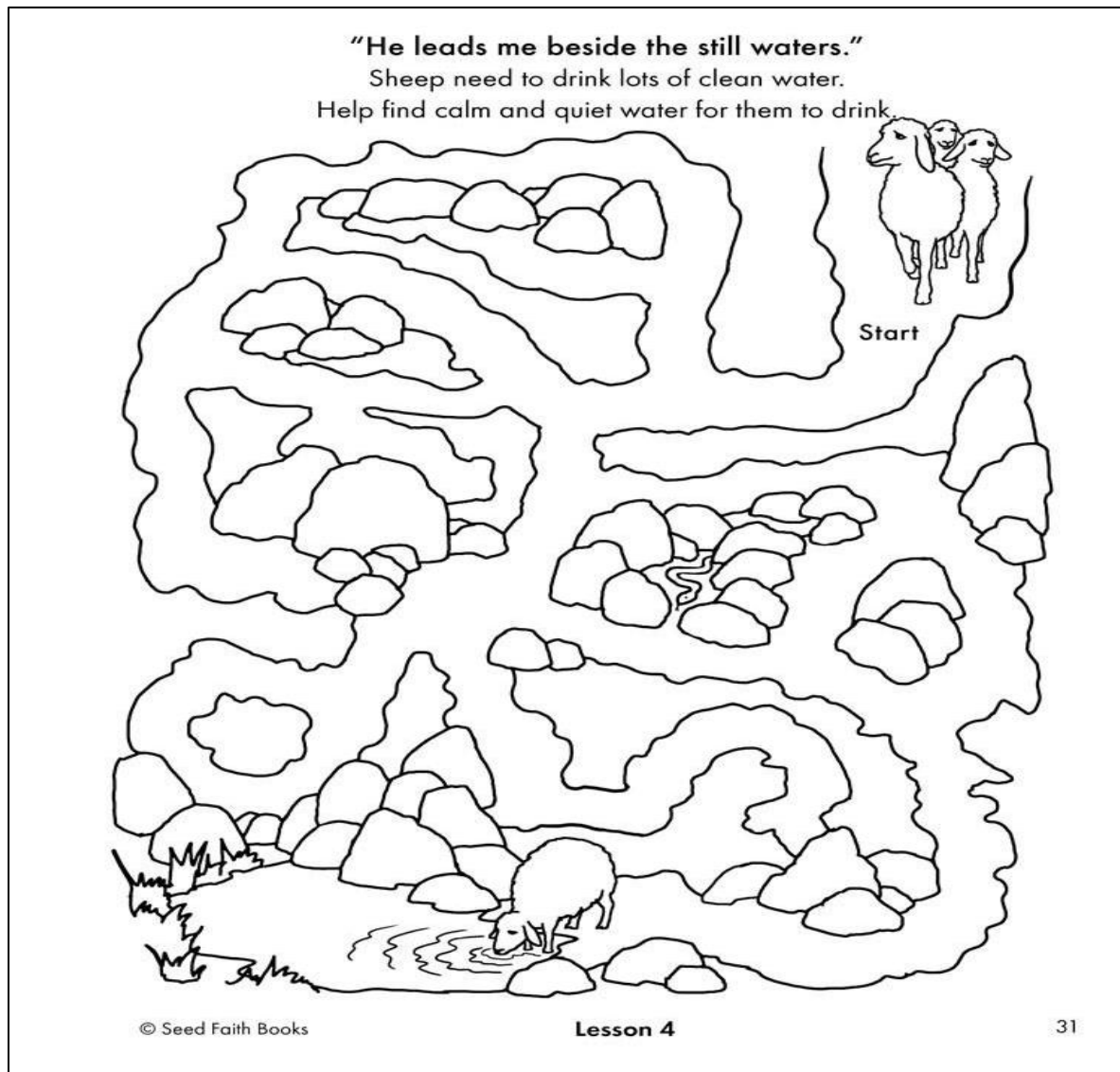
ACROSS

2. An area with grass or other vegetation for sheep or cattle to graze on
5. To be frightened of something
7. A building or dwelling place for a family
9. An area of low land between mountains or hills
10. An article of furniture upon which we eat our meals

DOWN

1. To show kindness, compassion, and forgiveness
3. One who herds, guards, and tends sheep
4. The route along which something travels
6. To go or travel on foot
8. The quality of being morally bad or wrong; wicked

Activity #9: Lead the sheep to the calm and quiet water.



Activity 10: Place the sheep in order



Materials needed:

Psalm 23 Art Craft template (see next page), scissors, glue and green coloured paper.

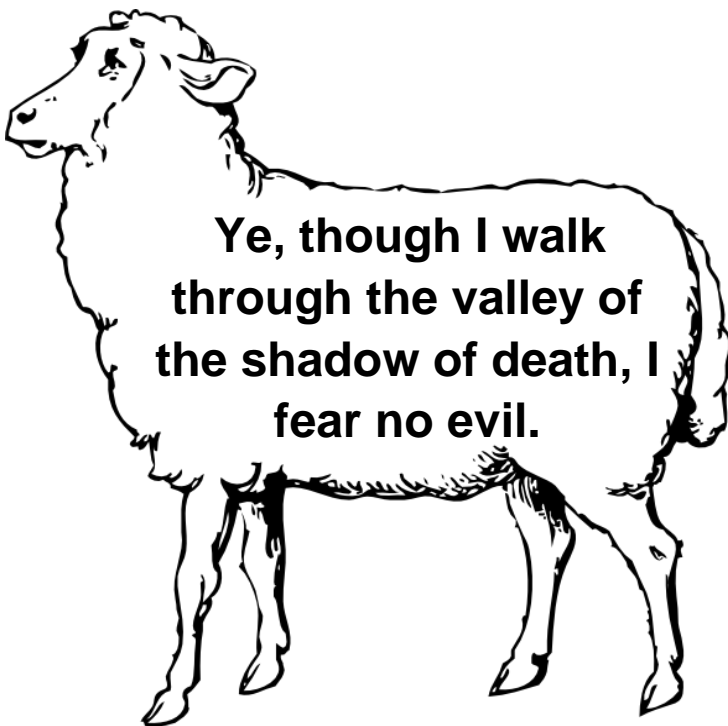
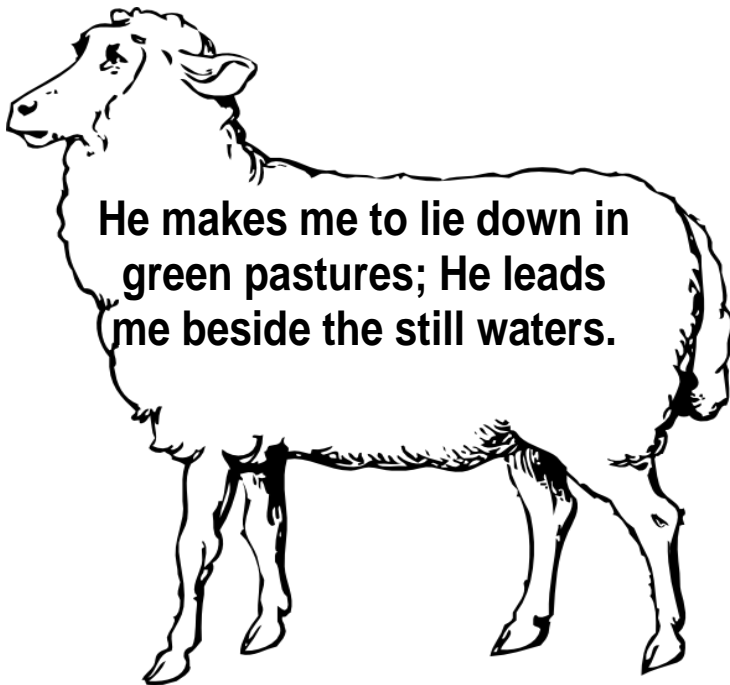
What to do:

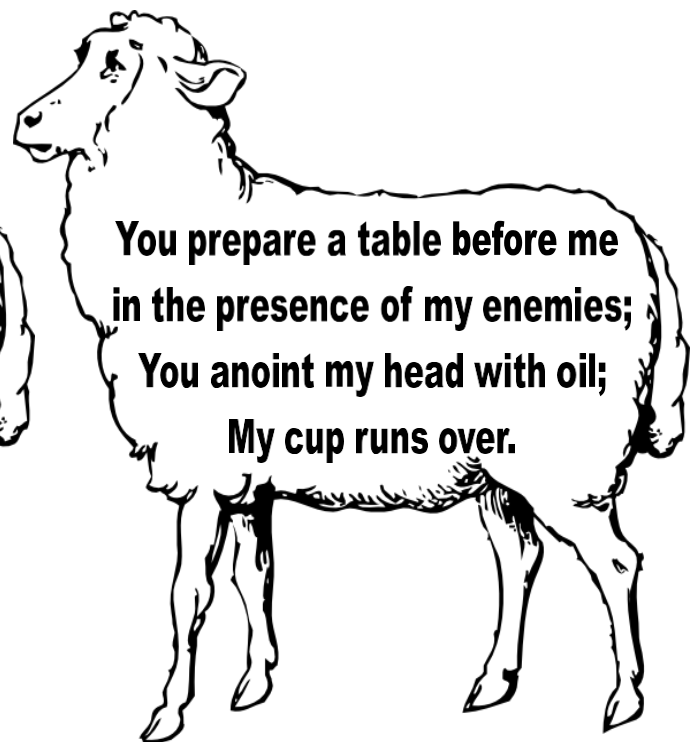
1. Cut out the sheep in the template.
2. Read Psalm 23.
3. Glue the sheep onto the green paper in the order of Psalm 23.

PSALM 23



Title Alphabet by:





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Thank you, Debbie Jackson