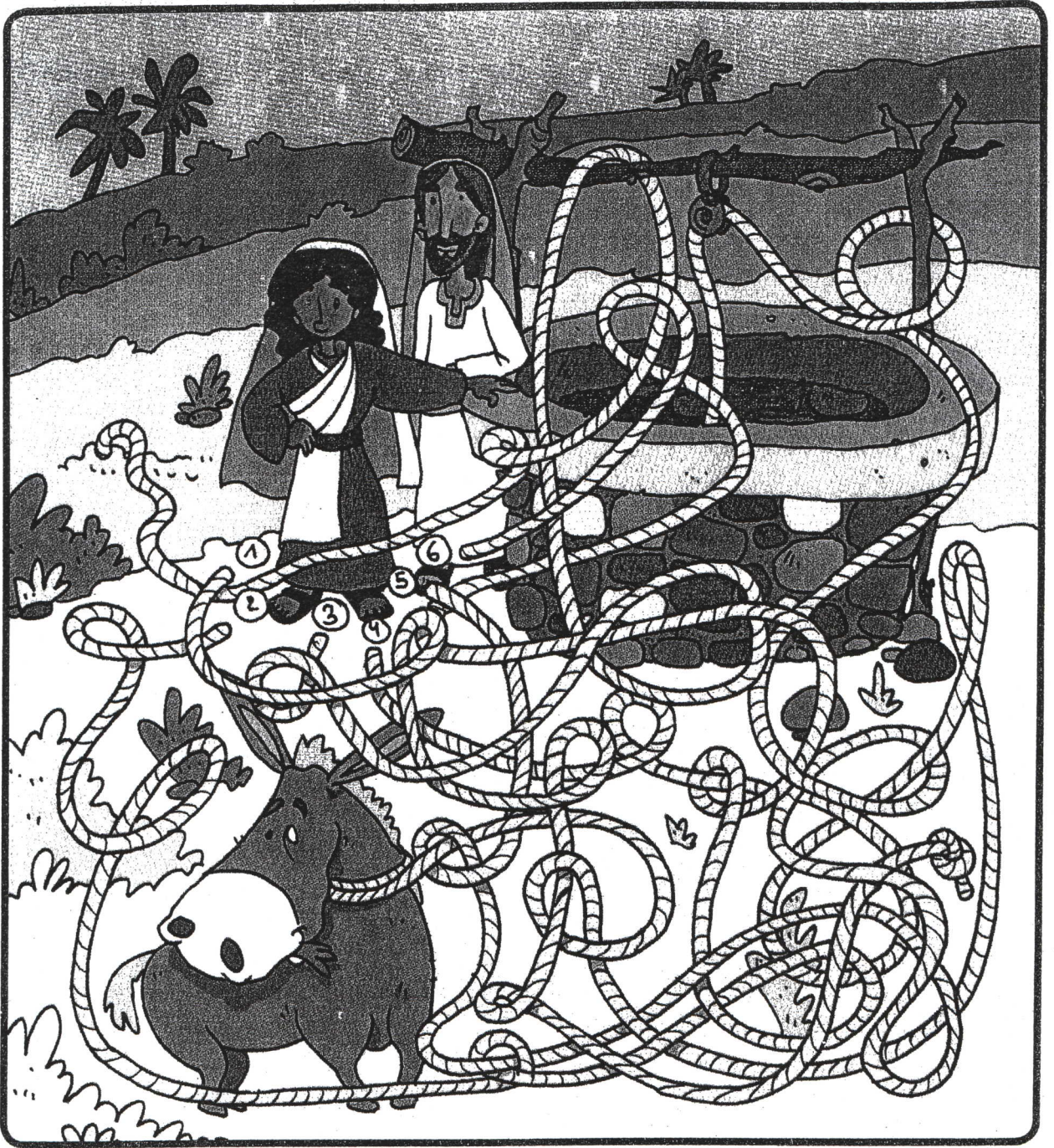


THE SAMARITAN WOMAN.



A large black circle filled with numerous small white circles, each containing a single letter of the alphabet. The letters are scattered throughout the circle, creating a dense, abstract pattern. The letters are not arranged in any specific order or pattern, appearing as random noise. The letters include A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, and Z. The circle is set against a white background.

The cross is just to the right of the center of the diagram. It spells out "R-I-G-H-T." It may take you a while to find it, because the other dots distract your attention.



HELP THE SAMARITAN WOMAN FIND THE ROPE
THAT IS ATTACHED TO THE BUCKET.

NICODEMUS

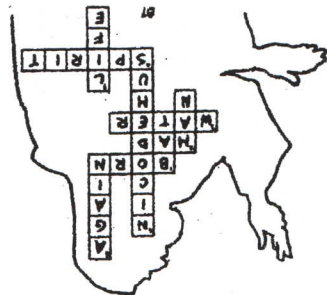
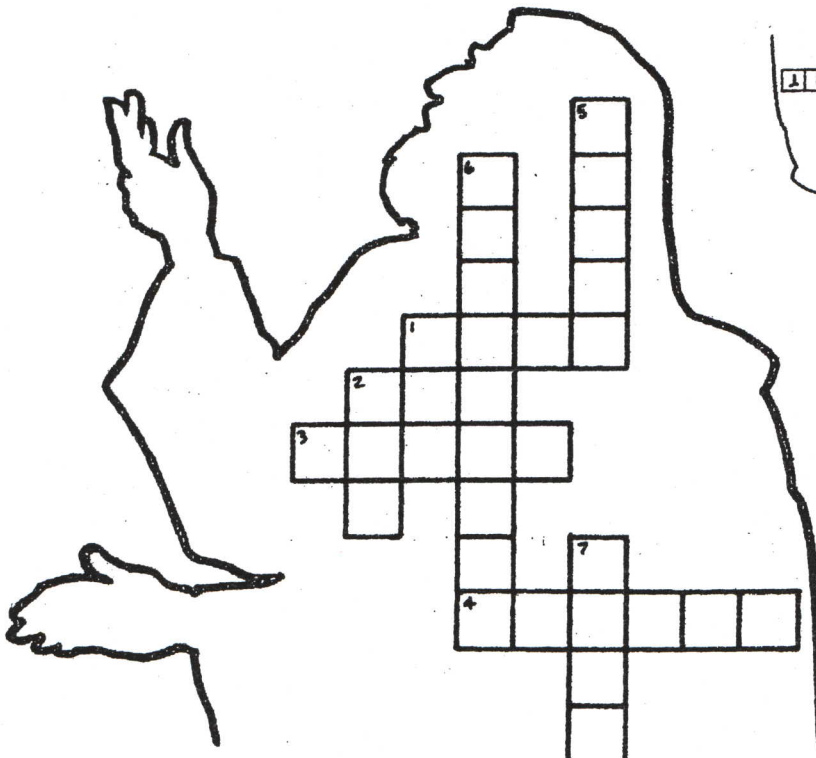
JOHN 3:1-21

ACROSS

- 1) TO COME INTO THIS
WORLD - RHYMES
WITH "HORN"
- 2) ANGRY
- 3) WE ARE BAPTIZED
IN _____ (A
CLEAR LIQUID).
- 4) FATHER, SON,
HOLY _____

DOWN

- 1) A BASEBALL IS HIT
WITH A _____.
- 5) MORE THAN ONCE -
"YOU MUST BE
BORN _____."
- 6) JESUS TOLD _____
THAT HE MUST BE
BORN AGAIN.
- 7) OPPOSITE OF DEATH
- 2) OPPOSITE OF WOMAN



Do you have a SPIRITUAL MENTOR?

At the tender age of 16 Uzziah became king of the southern kingdom of Judah. He reigned over 50 years from the late ninth to the early eighth century before Christ. From a young age, Uzziah “kept doing what was right in the eyes of God”. What influenced him to take an upright course? The historical record states “All the people of Judah chose Uzziah, though he was but sixteen years of age, and proclaimed him king to succeed his father Amaziah...He pleased the Lord, just as his father Amaziah had done...He was prepared to seek God as long as Zechariah lived who taught him to fear God; and as long as he sought the Lord, God made him prosper” 2 Chronicles 26: 1, 4, 5.

Not much is known about Zechariah, the advisor to the king, apart from his account in God’s revelation to us in Scripture. Yet, as the instructor who “...taught him to fear God,” Zechariah exercised a fine and upright influence on the young ruler to do what was right. He was obviously a man versed in sacred history, rich in spiritual

experience and able to communicate effectively his knowledge so that Uzziah benefited immensely from it. He was well versed in prophecy and was an intelligent, devout, good man. By God’s grace, Uzziah chose to pay attention to his admonitions.

Uzziah’s faithful course brought him many blessings and he displayed strength to an amazing degree because God continued to bless him. Yes, success in his secular efforts followed his spiritual success. After Uzziah became successful, he left the teachings of his mentor, Zechariah. He “became strong, he became proud to his own destruction and broke faith with the Lord, his God.” 2 Chronicles 26: 16. As a result of a particularly irreverent act, he was struck with a loathsome skin disease, which incapacitated him, so that he could no longer serve as king in the fullest sense. “As a leper he was excluded from the house of the Lord” 2 Chronicles 26: 21.

Orthodoxy has always provided the opportunity and advanced the idea of a spiritual mentor, a spiritual father, be he the parish priest, or a member of a monastic community, to guide and provide positive influence and insight for believers.

Do you have someone who might be called a personal instructor, a mentor, a spiritual father? Have you consulted

often with your parish priest when problems arise, so that another, spiritual dimension might be provided and another avenue opened for consideration? Does the need arise in your life when God's position should be considered? Do you have someone in your life who influences you to search for God? This can be an advancement whether we are young or past the day of youth, whether female or male, child or adult.

A spiritual father should be treasured for his admonition can help us keep doing what is right in the eyes of God, our Father. Listen carefully to the maturity of a Christian teacher and seriously consider the advice provided. Never turn aside from the wise words of such an instructor in fear of the true God. "A wise man by hearing them will advance in learning, an intelligent man will gain sound guidance, that he may comprehend proverb and parable, the words of the wise and their riddles. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; wisdom and instruction fools despise" Proverbs 1: 5 - 7; "The way of the fool seems right in his own eyes, but he who listens to advice is wise" Proverbs 12: 15; "Listen to counsel and receive instruction, that you may eventually become wise. Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the decision of the Lord that endures" Proverbs 19: 20.