

READ IT

This week's Bible story is

Paul and the Philippians

from Philippians 1:1-14.

God is with us everywhere.

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Paul
- Jail
- Philippians
- Paul's letter

Paul traveled all over preaching the good news of Jesus and teaching people of God's love. He started many churches. When he moved on to the next area, he would often stay in touch with the churches he had started by writing letters that were called *epistles*.

Read the whole story together in the Bible!

Spark Story Bible pages 554-555

Spark Bible page 1303

Family Prayer

Say this prayer while looking at a picture of your church.

Thank you, God, for always being with us.

**Open our eyes and hearts so that we can see
and join your work in the world. AMEN.**

TALK ABOUT IT



Family Conversations

- 1 Have you ever gotten a letter in the mail?
- 2 Who do you write letters to?
- 3 How are letters different from emails and texts? How are they the same?
- 4 Jump rope and list the many places God is with you as you jump. Who in your family can keep it going the longest?



Eye Spark

When you see a letter with your name on it, imagine what it would be like to get a letter from the Apostle Paul!



Ear Spark

When you hear your computer signal that "you've got mail," think of all of the letters Paul wrote to others. They must have been excited to get mail from Paul!

LIVE IT

For families to do together

Keep a list of all of the places you know God is with you. Hang a big piece of paper on the fridge or on a door in your house and keep a crayon, pencil, or marker nearby so it is easy to add something when you think of it. See how long your list can grow!

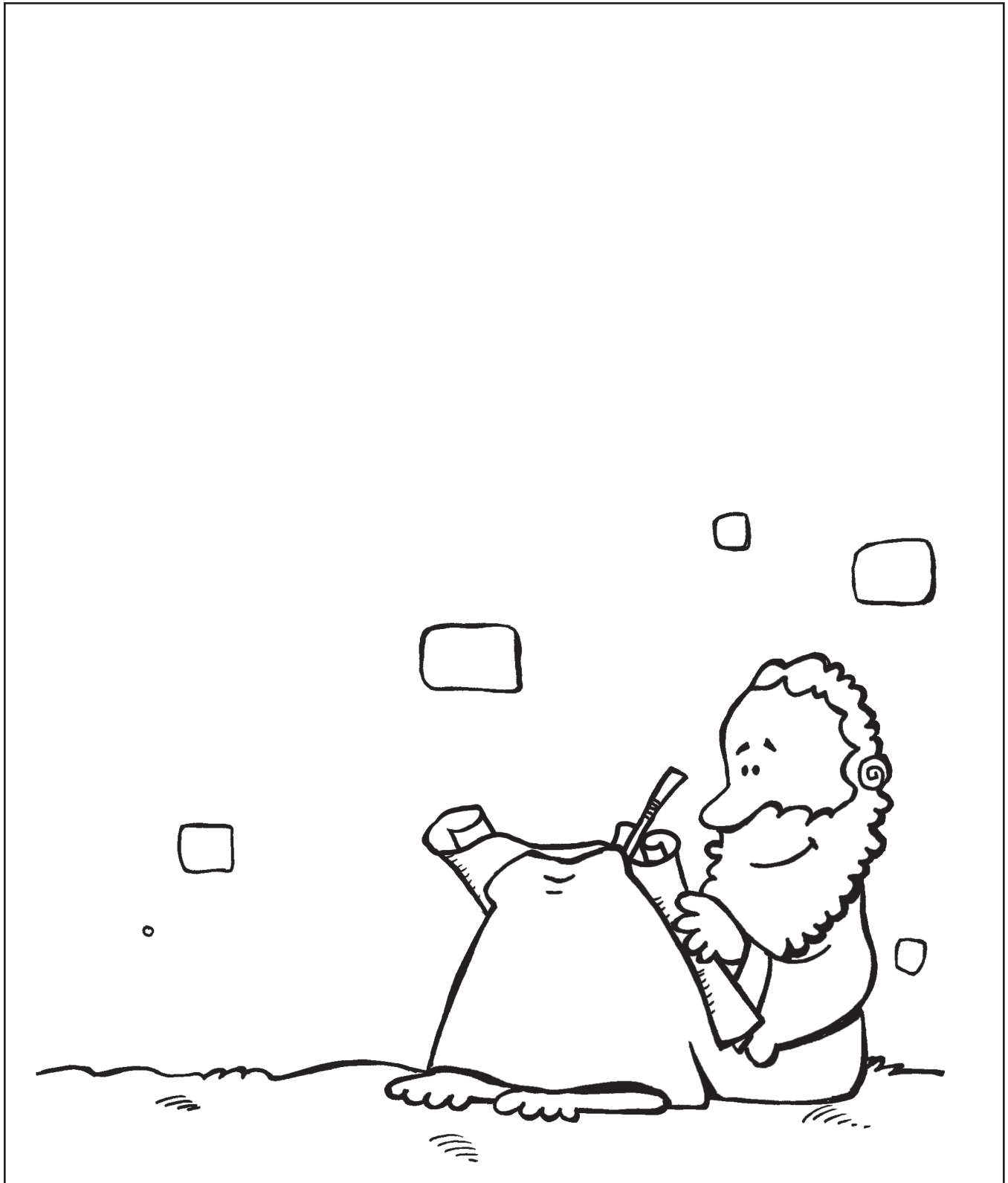
For younger kids

Draw a picture of your favorite Bible story and mail it to a friend.

For older kids

Use one of your favorite ways of communication to send out an invitation to join you at your church for worship or another event. Paul would have loved to be able to reach so many people so quickly!

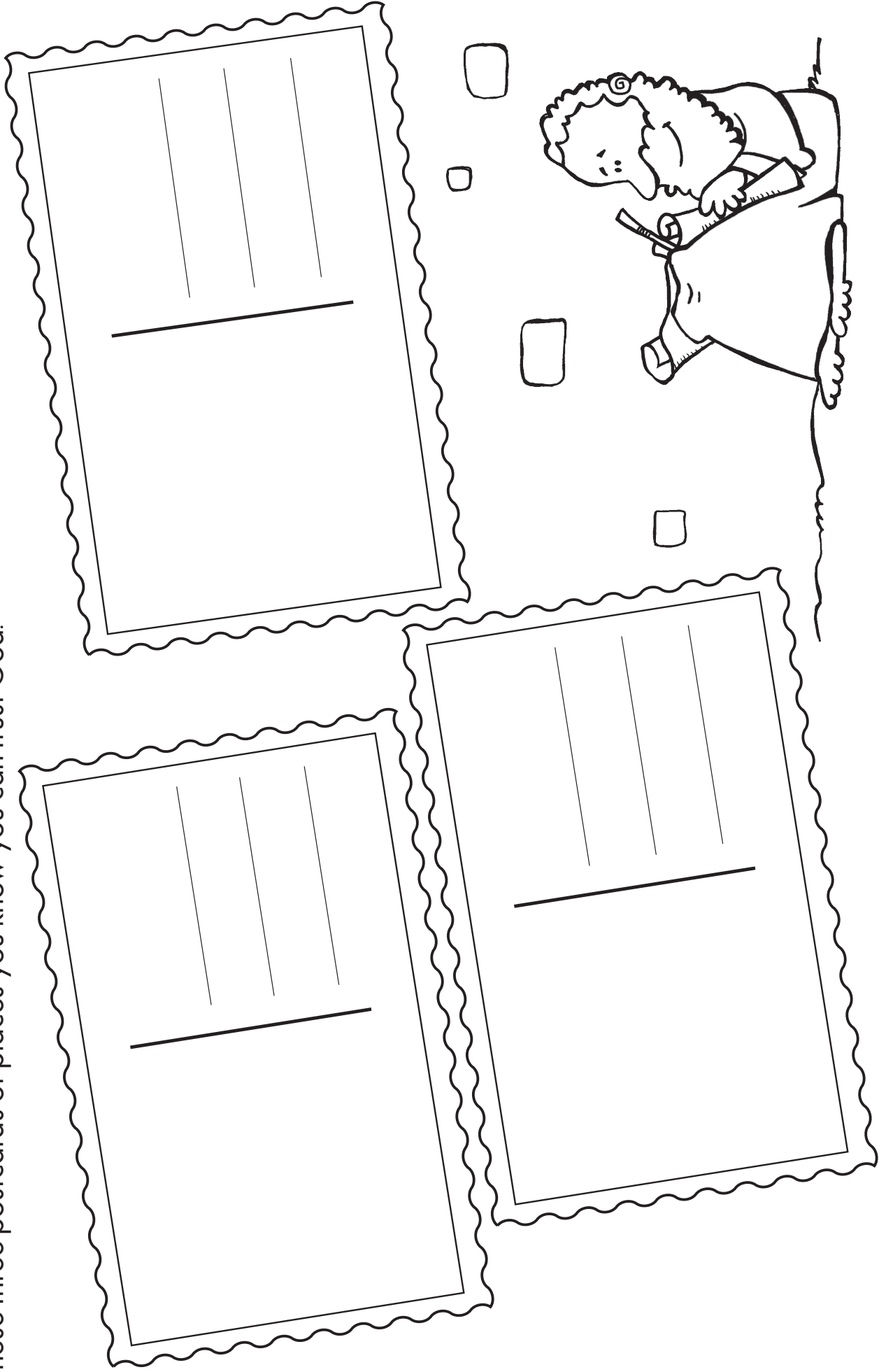
Paul and the Philippians



Paul sent a letter to the Philippians from jail with some wonderful news.
“God is working even here!”

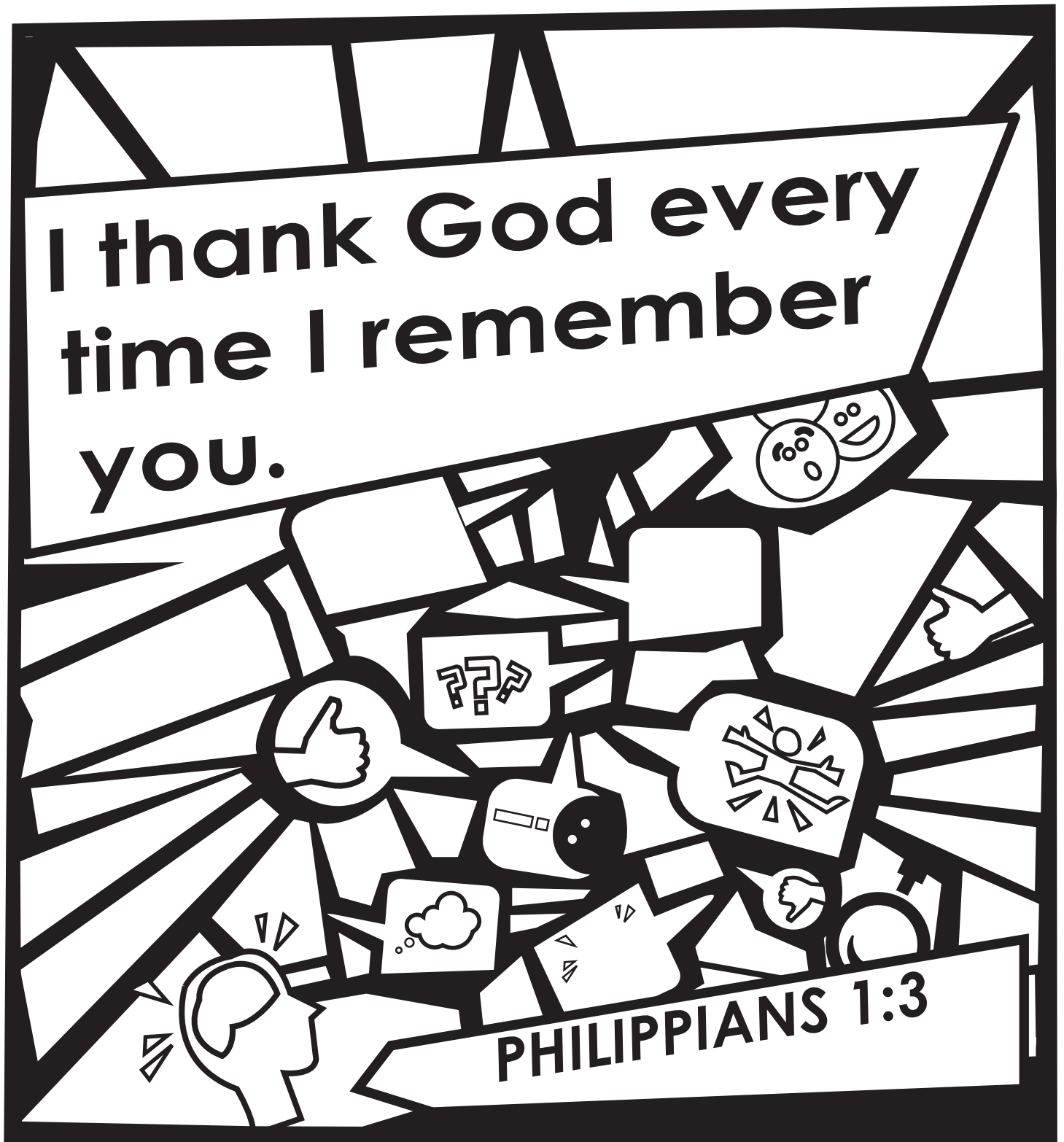
Paul's Postcards

Paul wrote letters to his friends to tell them that they could trust God wherever they were! Draw pictures in these three postcards of places you know you can trust God.



Philippian Poster

Paul thanked God for the Philippians. You can thank God for people you love, too! Decorate this poster and give it to someone who you care about. Remind them that you thank God for them!



A Letter of Encouragement

Paul wrote many, many letters to the early followers of Jesus. Sometimes he wrote these letters from prison! In the letter to the Philippians, he thanked the Philippians for helping him and praying for him while he was in jail. Write a letter to someone who has encouraged you during a difficult time. Cut it out, roll it into a scroll, and make a plan to deliver it!

