

'Twas the Season OF Lent

Devotions and Stories for the
Lenten and Easter Seasons

Written by Glenys Nellist
Illustrated by Elena Selivanova

RESOURCE AND
ACTIVITY PACK

A Note from the Author & Tips for Using the Book

Dear Friend,

Thank you so much for joining me on this 40-day journey as we read *Twas the Season of Lent* together. My hope and prayer is that this book might help you pause and bring meaning to this sacred season. Here are some tips that will help you make the most out of your reading:

- Try to establish a specific time when you will read the book each day. This will look different for everyone, but if you can manage it, it will help create a habit of your daily reading.
- Try to establish a special area or reading spot where you can read each day. If you have children, they can help prepare that space, perhaps with a candle (battery operated if necessary), a snack and comfortable seating.
- Begin on Ash Wednesday and read one devotion per day *excluding* Sundays.
- If you have time, begin by reading the scripture upon which each devotion is based; follow this with the story and finish with the prayer.
- Children have varying attention spans! If the story seems long, paraphrase it.
- Leave time to ponder the pictures and talk about them.
- Since Sundays are not included in the 40 days of Lent, use those days to look back on the few stories you read in the previous week. Which one was your favorite? Why? Reread that one.
- Even if you are reading alone, try reading the stories aloud. There is power in hearing the words.
- The book is divided into four sections, covering *The Mission*, *The Message*, *The Ministry* and *The Mystery of Jesus*. Pause at each section to read the poem and look at the pictures. Ask: How does this picture make me feel?
- Use the accompanying printable 40 Day Lenten Calendar Path as you countdown to Easter. Color each day or put a sticker over it.
- Since the book is focused on encouraging us to join Jesus in his mission to the lost, the least and the lonely, think and talk about what specific mission-oriented activities you could do during these 40 days. Plan those days ahead of time and write these projects on your calendar.
- Finally, if you don't manage to read one or two of the days, don't worry... forty days is a long time! Do what you can! Enjoy this Lenten journey and know that God is with you.

Glenys Nellist



Bookplate

Print on paper, cut out and glue inside the Presentation page.

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written by Glenys Nellist, Illustrated by Elena Selivanova

Lenten
Blessings!
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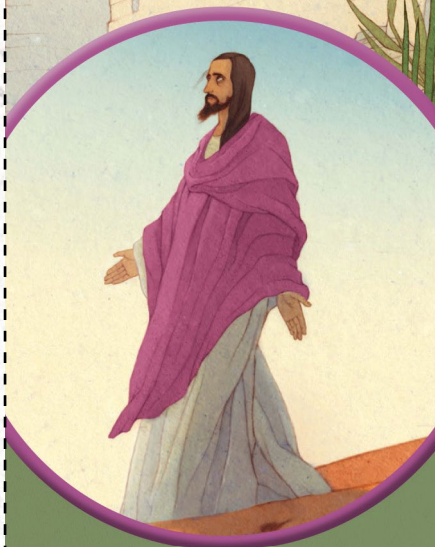
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Bookmarks

Copy on cardstock, cut out and glue together. Punch a hole where indicated and tie a ribbon through.

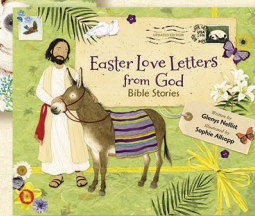
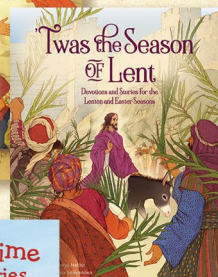
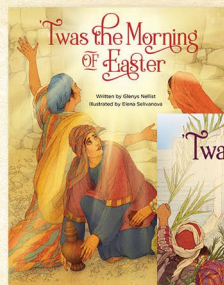
'Twas the Season Of Lent



To be more like
Jesus—to love,
care and give—
In hopes that we
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Celebrate the
Lenten & Easter
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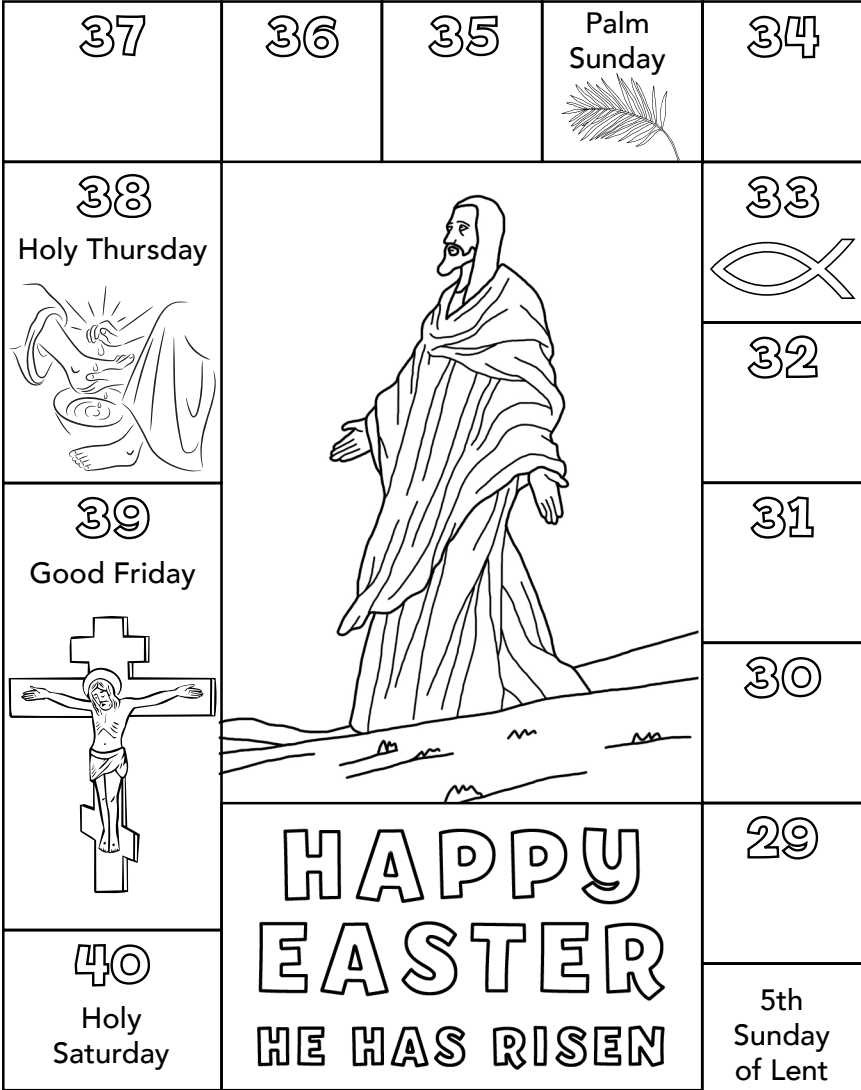




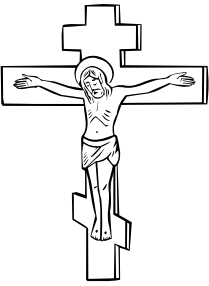






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'T WAS THE SEASON OF LENT

COLORING CALENDAR

Follow the path to Easter Sunday. Color one square a day or put a sticker on each day.

15 	14	13	12	11	2nd Sunday of Lent	10	9 	8							
16								7							
3rd Sunday of Lent								37	36	35	Palm Sunday 	34	6		
17								38 Holy Thursday 				33 	5		
18												32	1st Sunday of Lent		
19								39 Good Friday 				31	4		
20												30	3 		
21 									HAPPY EASTER HE HAS RISEN			29	2		
22								40 Holy Saturday				5th Sunday of Lent	1 Ash Wednesday 		
4th Sunday of Lent								23	24	25	26	27 	28		

Holy Week Wonderings

Here are three ideas to help children ponder the events of Holy Week.

If you're preparing Lenten Boxes for children, you will need small packets of baby wipes, the finger labyrinth printed & laminated, and small hand-holding wooden crosses available from Etsy or Amazon.

Place the suggested items (one per child) in a clear bag with the following guidelines.

❖ On Maundy Thursday...

Wash each other's feet (or hands) with baby wipes.

Ask: I wonder how the disciples felt when Jesus washed their feet...

❖ On Good Friday...

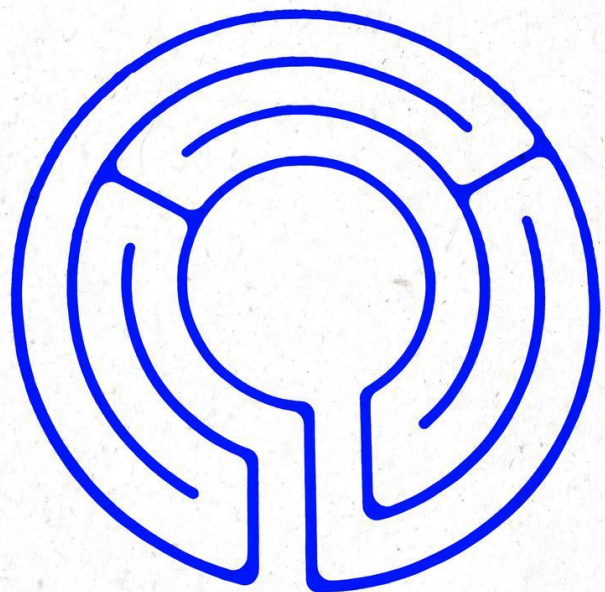
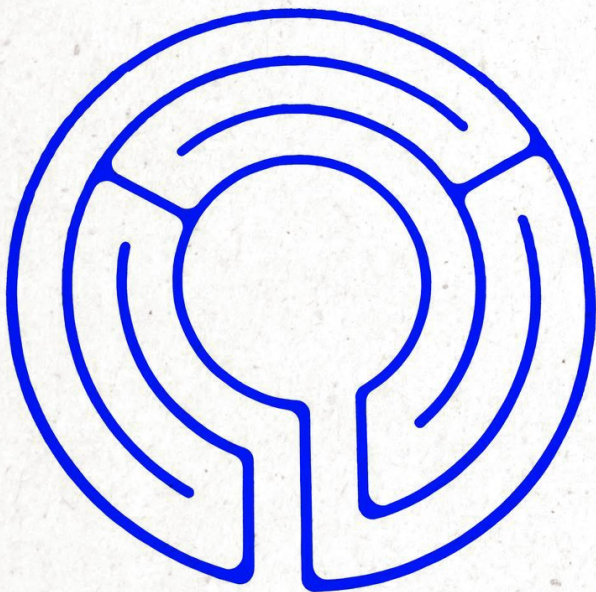
Wrap your fingers around a small hand-holding cross. Hold it as you listen to the story.

Ask: I wonder how God felt this day...

❖ On Holy Saturday...

Slowly trace a finger labyrinth

Ask: I wonder what was happening in the tomb...



THE MISSION OF JESUS

'Twas the season of Lent, when for forty whole days

God's people were trying to think of new ways

To be more like Jesus—to love, care, and give—

In hopes that they'd choose the right way to live.

On this journey through Lent they were hoping to find

How to forgive, to pray, and be kind.

To think less of themselves, how to put others first,

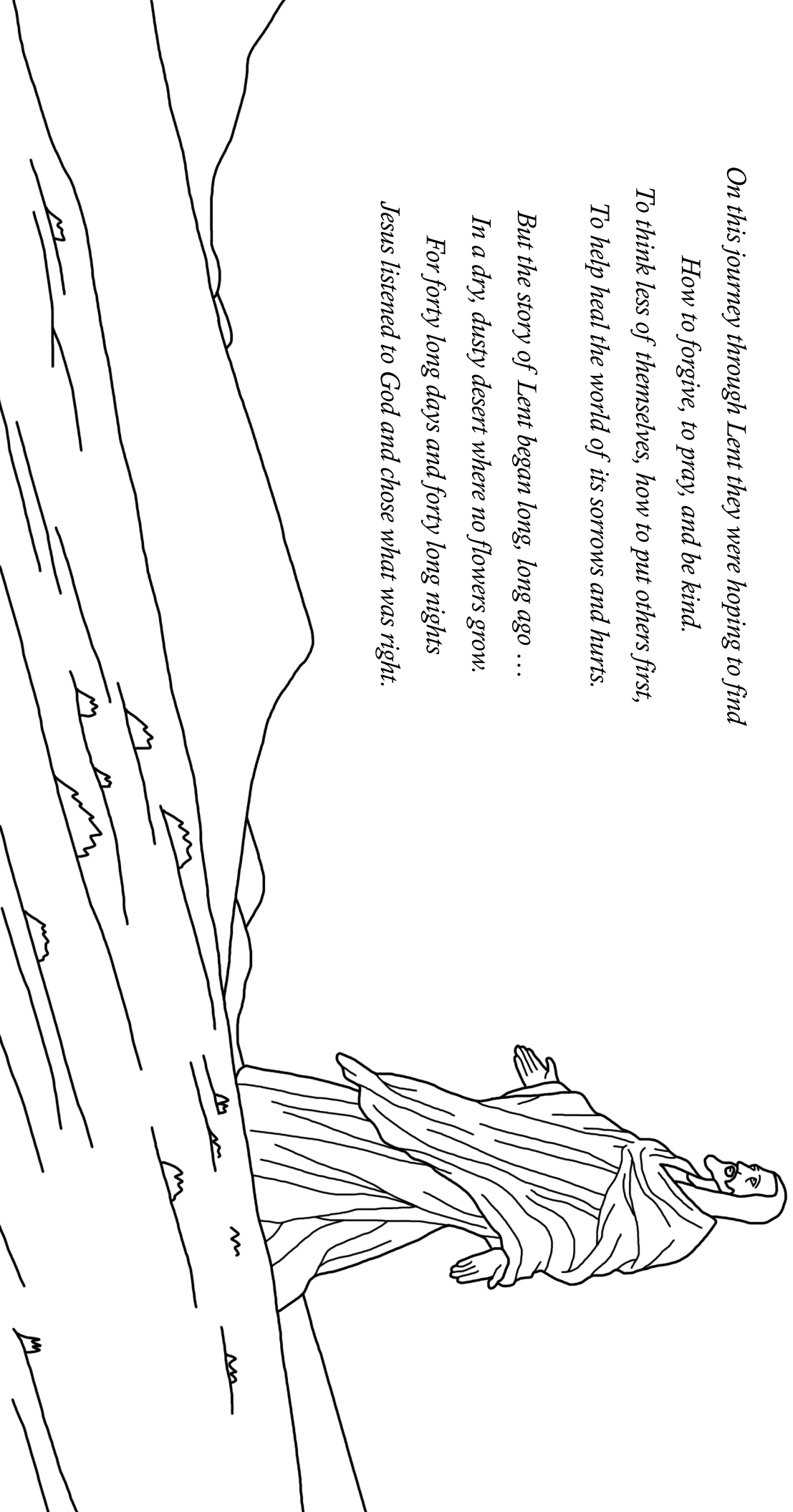
To help heal the world of its sorrows and hurts.

But the story of Lent began long, long ago ...

In a dry, dusty desert where no flowers grow.

For forty long days and forty long nights

Jesus listened to God and chose what was right.



THE MESSAGE OF JESUS

*Then Jesus set out and found a good team
Of women and men who shared God's great dream.*

And out on the hillside and by the lakeshore

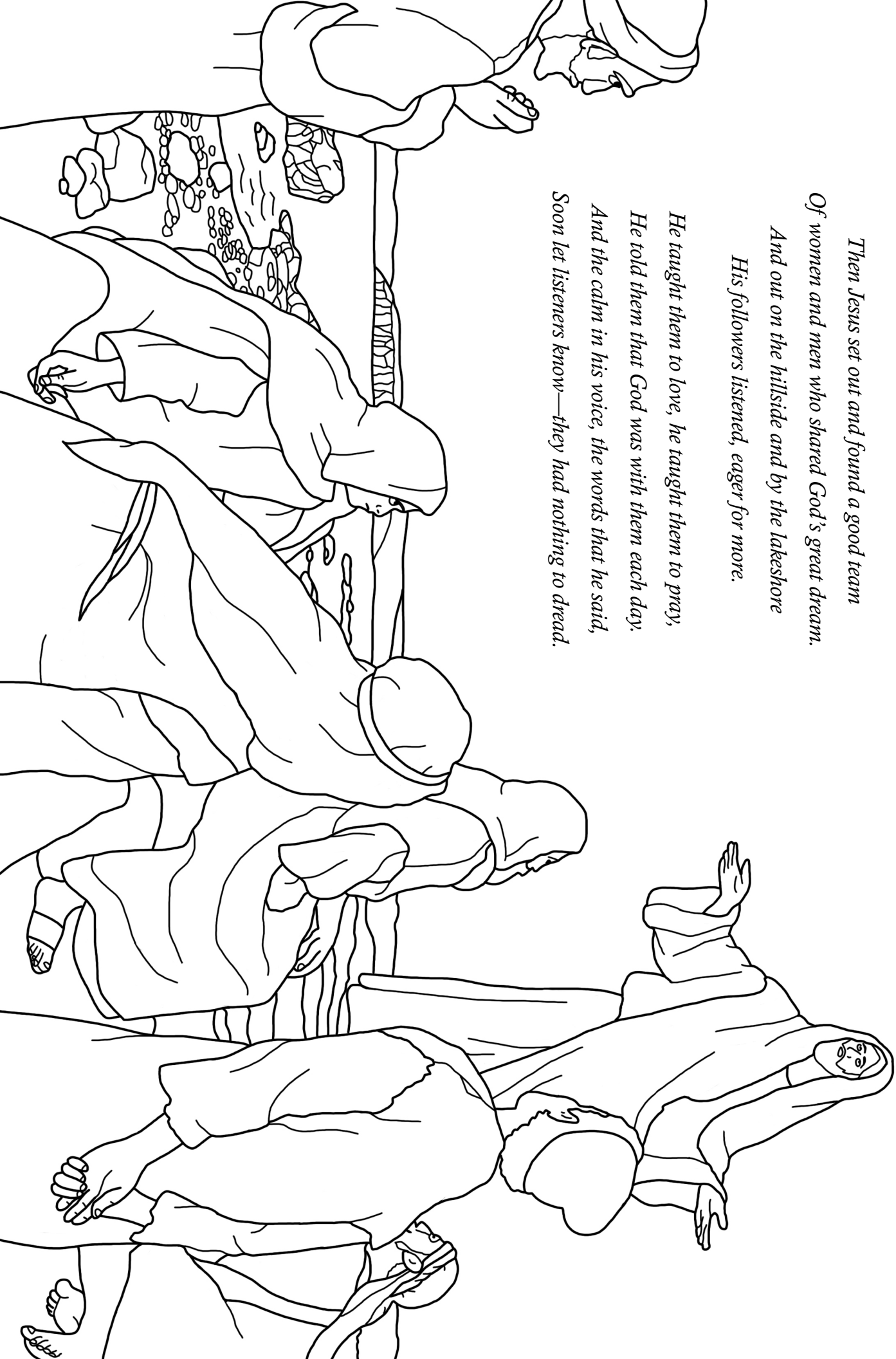
His followers listened, eager for more.

He taught them to love, he taught them to pray,

He told them that God was with them each day.

And the calm in his voice, the words that he said,

Soon let listeners know—they had nothing to dread.



THE MINISTRY OF JESUS

For those who were lonely, left out, or in pain,

It was Jesus who saw them and called them by name.

He brought hope to ALL with words that were true

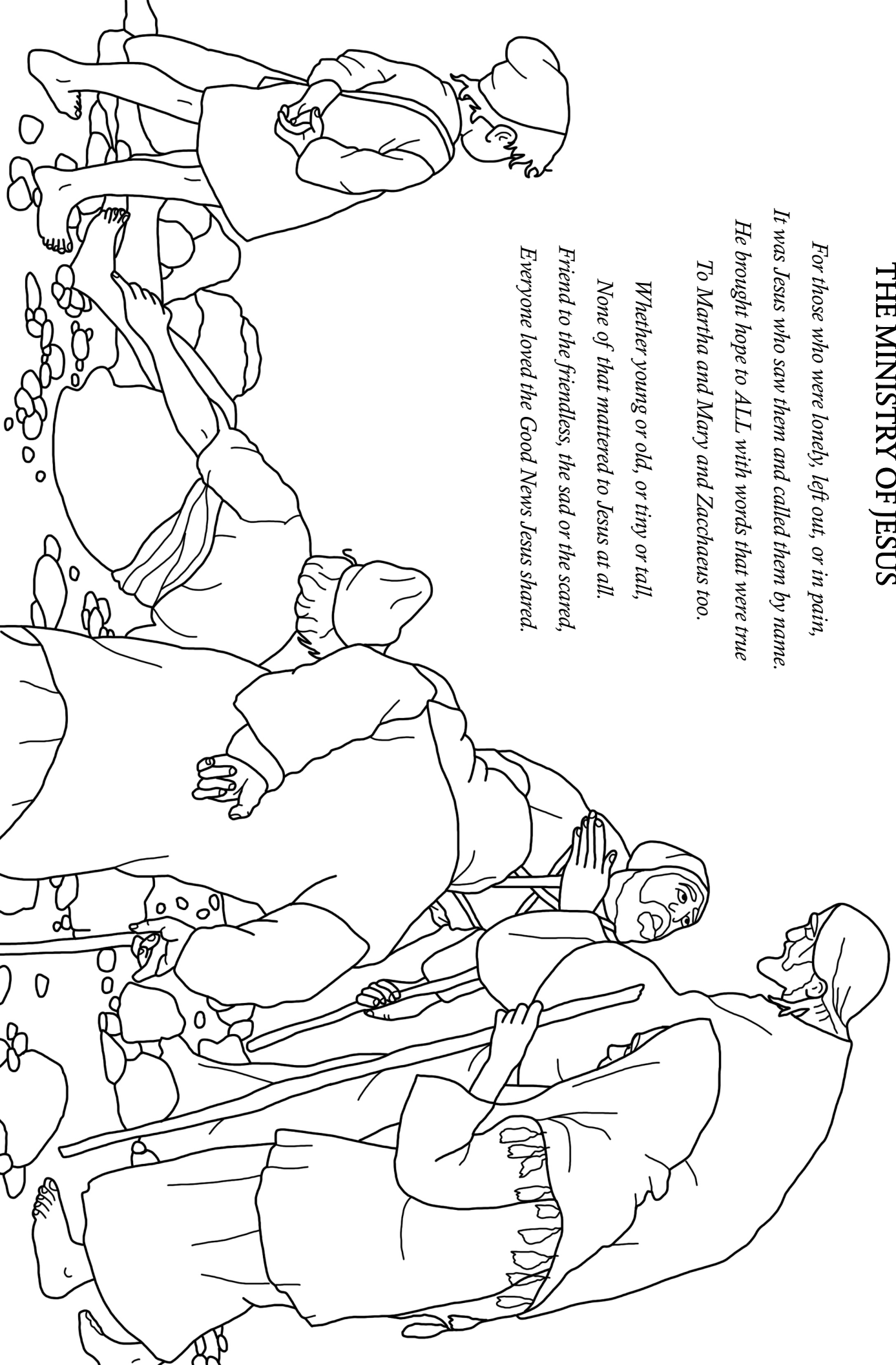
To Martha and Mary and Zacchaeus too.

Whether young or old, or tiny or tall,

None of that mattered to Jesus at all.

Friend to the friendless, the sad or the scared,

Everyone loved the Good News Jesus shared.





THE MYSTERY OF JESUS

But sometimes when Jesus lay down in his bed,

Visions of danger danced round in his head.

His enemies came and they took him away.

And soon, Jesus died on a dark, lonely day.

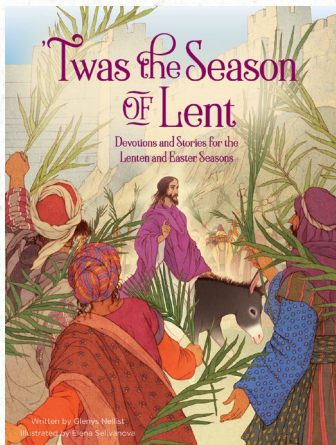
The cave where they laid him was sealed with a stone.

The disciples and Mary were left all alone.

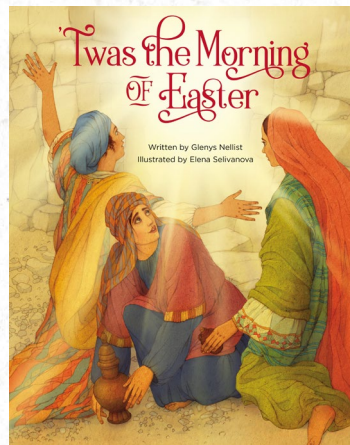
They couldn't believe that they'd lost their good friend,

But his story's not over—it wasn't the end!

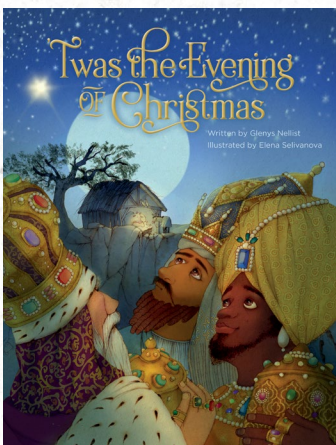
Celebrate Each Season with Books by Glenys Nellist



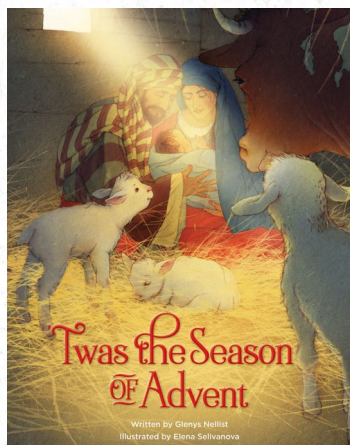
'Twas the Season of Lent
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'Twas the Morning of Easter
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'Twas the Evening of Christmas
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'Twas the Season of Advent
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Glenys Nellist was born and raised in a little village in northern England. Her writing reflects a deep passion for bringing the Bible to life for young children. She lives in Dearborn, Michigan, with her husband, David. Find Glenys online: glenysnellist.com



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